

Reincke//Hughes//Popple

play 'The Trio'



Bernd Reincke *Bar.ss, bcl*

John Hughes *Bass*

Chad Popple *drums*

Reincke //Hughes//Popple - three names, three musicians: Bernd Reincke, baritone and soprano saxophone, bass clarinet; John Hughes, double bass; Chad Popple, drums. A German and two US musicians in Hamburg. A trio. And what kind of thing! Chairs are in the wrong place, drawers are only briefly torn open and quickly closed again, - it is contemporary, open-minded jazz. Energetically charged, powerful and determined; highly sensitive, audible and interactive; ready for every direction the interplay shows them: From swing to the dissolution of the time continuum in rubato, from arcs of melody to eruptive outbursts, from the form-consciousness to the precisely developed loss of control in free play.

In the current jazz scene Reincke//Hughes//Popple have found their place, but the title of their album "play, The Trio" refers confidently to a reference from the golden era of progressive jazz. In 'The Trio', founded in 1969, the saxophonist John Surman collaborated with the bassist Barre Phillips and the drummer Stu Martin, a European saxophonist and two US colleagues. Like 'The Trio', in the years after the climax of free jazz, Reincke //Hughes//Popple explore remote sound dimensions of their instruments with a great degree of self-assurance. Melody contrasts with harsh and noisy sounds, flageolets, overblown effects, 'false' bowing and fingering, as well as other advanced playing techniques.

Next to the instrumentation with baritone, soprano saxophone and bass clarinet, double bass and drums, Reincke//Hughes//Popple derived the predominant part of their repertoire (two pieces are collective improvisations, and another composition is written by John Hughes) from 'The Trio'. The self-awareness to leave all the usual formulas behind and to dive into the realm of improvisation on the basis of carefully constructed compositions is also a trademark they share with John Surman, Barre Phillips and Stu Martin. With all respect to The Trio, Reincke//Hughes//Popple bring their compositions into a new dimension, ideas and concepts flow into their modern improvisational arcs, due to the course of the times that are changing. With "play, 'The Trio'", Reincke//Hughes//Popple claim to be perceived even in the series of trios called "The Trio".

Stefan Hentz



I was a little nervous before listening to the album because, as you can imagine, I have many good memories of working with Stu & Barre and it is difficult to imagine the music any other way!

But as soon as I put the CD on and started to listen I relaxed and enjoyed the sounds. I am very happy that you are finding so many new areas to explore in this music.

I think it is great that you are finding different ways of approaching the themes and also creating new material that fits in context with the original trio material. The important thing is that you are able to express yourselves and thus allow the music to develop and move forward.

I wish you all the best for the future and hope that YOUR TRIO can go from strength to strength!!

John Surman
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