

ACT

Leszek Mozdzer & Friends

Jazz at Berlin Philharmonic III ACT 9578-2

German release date: March 27, 2015

For many, jazz means new ideas, new sounds, and always doing things for the first time, and the same goes for the “Jazz at Berlin Philharmonic” concert series. On these evenings, surprising, unique combinations of musicians and border-crossing projects can be heard in the Kammermusiksaal of the Berlin Philharmonie. This is one of the many reasons why they have nearly always sold out since their inception in November 2012, and part of what makes them a highlight of Berlin's music scene.

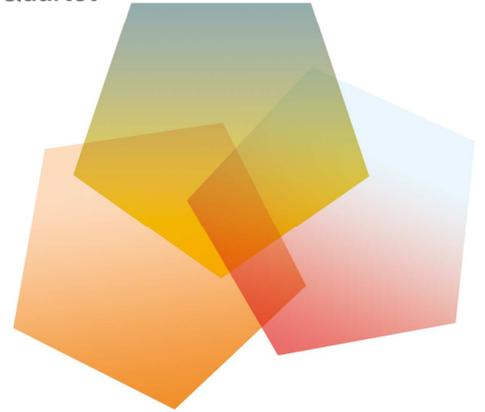
On May 7th, 2014, “Jazz at Berlin Philharmonic” headed East on its musical journey to the jazz stronghold of Poland. Whenever the topic of Polish jazz arises, it's never long before the name Leszek Mozdzer is mentioned. The 1971-born piano virtuoso is revered like a pop star in his homeland, his albums routinely make their way into the Polish charts, beating artists such as Sting or Beyoncé to the top spots along the way.

Mozdzer's music is deeply rooted in Polish music tradition while at the same time striving for new horizons. Everything is thrown in, from classical to jazz to pop, all interlaced and in sync with one another. Mozdzer's classical piano education enables him to explore his own worlds of sound with masterful technique. Chopin, the national hero of Polish music, is an ever-present influence but Mozdzer also takes cues from modern Polish composers such as Witold Lutoslawski, best known for his complex symphonic oeuvres as well as catchy popular “hits”, and Krzysztof Komeda, the founder of an unconventionally lyrical, genuinely Polish jazz sound, and composer for many of Roman Polanski's films including “Rosemary's Baby”.

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Lars Danielsson
Zohar Fresco
Atom String Quartet

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For his “Jazz at Berlin Philharmonic”, Mozdzer enlisted the help of Swedish bassist and cellist Lars Danielsson, Israeli percussionist Zohar Fresco - performing both as a piano / bass duo or trio - and the Atom String Quartet. Without his friends, the concert evening would only have been half the occasion, virtuosity and musicality went hand in hand. Danielsson and Fresco are soul mates of Mozdzer, and they have been collaborating closely for ten years now.

Performing with the Atom String Quartet was a new experience for all three men, they are one of the world's finest string quartets and are mentioned in the same breath as the American Kronos Quartet. Outstanding classical technique and a stupendous talent for improvisation enable the quartet to use their instruments with a range that has never been heard before.

Together, Leszek Mozdzer & Friends, the protagonists in the sold-out Kammermusiksaal, conjured up a celebrated concert evening that once again shows that a mix of jazz, classical and folk music provides important impulses for the future of European jazz and Poland, here with Mozdzer on the piano, plays a big part in that.

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Photo by Dieter Strothmann

- 01 **Etude No 2** (Witold Lutosławski) 4:32
- 02 **Praying** (Lars Danielsson) 5:24
- 03 **Follow My Backlights** (Leszek Możdżer) 5:48
- 04 **Love Pastas** (Leszek Możdżer) 12:01
- 05 **Na 7** (Dawid Lubowicz) 5:31
- 06 **Africa** (Lars Danielsson) 6:04
- 07 **Gsharim** (Zohar Fresco) 7:10
- 08 **Eden** (Lars Danielsson) 8:55
- 09 **Hunchback Porn Angel** (Leszek Możdżer) 4:01
- 10 **Winter Song** (Krzysztof Lenczowski) 6:13

Produced by Siggie Loch & Leszek Możdżer
Presented by Stiftung Berliner Philharmoniker

Recorded live in concert at the Berlin Philharmonie (KMS)
by Klaus Scheuermann and Piotr Taraszkiwicz

Mixed and mastered by Grzegorz Czachor and
Klaus Scheuermann. Additional mixing by Marek Heimbürger.

More Jazz at Berlin Philharmonic on ACT:

Iiro Rantala, Michael Wollny & Leszek Możdżer:
"Jazz at Berlin Philharmonic I" (ACT 9556-2)

Solveig Slettahjell, Bugge Wesseltuft, Knut Reiersrud
& In The Country: "Jazz at Berlin Philharmonic II
"Norwegian Woods"" (ACT 9569-2)

Leszek Możdżer on ACT:

Trio with Lars Danielsson & Zohar Fresco: "Polska" (ACT 9557-2)
Duo with Walter Norris: "The Last Set – Live at the A-Trane" (ACT 9540-2)
Duo with Lars Danielsson: "Pasodoble" (ACT 9458-2)
Solo: "Komeda" (ACT 9516-2)

Leszek Możdżer / piano
Lars Danielsson / bass & cello
Zohar Fresco / percussion

Atom String Quartet:
Dawid Lubowicz / violin
Mateusz Smoczyński / violin
Michał Zaborski / viola
Krzysztof Lenczowski / cello

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THE ACT COMPANY

Auenstraße 47, 80469 München, Germany
Phone +49 89 72 94 92 0, Fax +49 89 72 94 92 11
e-mail: info@actmusic.com
Visit our website at <http://www.actmusic.com>

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