

Kestutis Vaiginis "Unexpected Choices" CD cover





"Unexpected Choices" brings anticipated joy from the music of Kęstutis Vaiginis. His vision is wide-ranging from the subtle to the provocative, rooted in an appreciation of tradition and yet looking forward. Kęstutis is developing a highly personal voice that is primed to make a significant contribution"

Steve Wilson

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|---------------------------|------|
| 1. Cloudy | 6:11 |
| 2. Seasons of the sea | 7:20 |
| 3. Monday 9 th | 7:24 |
| 4. Dust of Pain | 6:09 |
| 5. Lagrimas Blancas | 7:15 |
| 6. A Dream to Fly | 8:36 |
| 7. Monk | 7:41 |
| 8. Injection | 5:17 |
| 9. It's Time | 6:58 |
| 10. Poco a poco | 6:37 |

Total time: 69:53

Kęstutis Vaiginis - tenor & soprano saxes

Austin Becker - alto sax on tracks 1, 5, 7, 8 & 10

Tatum Greenblatt - trumpet & flugelhorn on tracks 1, 5, 6, 7 & 10

Andy Hunter - trombone on tracks 1, 7 & 10

David Berkman - piano

Hernan Romero - guitar on tracks 6 & 7

Linda Oh - bass

Joey Saylor - drums on tracks 1, 2, 4, 5 & 8

Devín Gray - drums on tracks 3, 6, 7, 9 & 10

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This recording was supported by the Ministry of Culture of The Republic of Lithuania.
Recorded by All Perrotta, at Bennett Studios in New Jersey, New York on 11 May 2008.
Mixed and mastered by All Perrotta at Bennett Studios.
All compositions and arrangements by Kęstutis Vaiginis.

Kęstutis Vaiginis (b. 1978) is a skillful and, for his age, extremely mature Lithuanian jazz musician of the young generation. He is a saxophone player, composer, and group leader who for a long time divided his artistic interests between academic and jazz music. However, today he represents the jazz scene that offers wider expressive possibilities.

Kęstutis Vaiginis is 30. Ten out of the three decades of his life have been spent on stage. In those years playing with peers and experienced jazz masters, as well as compatriots and foreign colleagues he earned a great reputation in the Lithuanian jazz community. As a student at the Lithuanian Academy of Music he participated in festival projects with Barbara Dennerlein, Daniel Messina, and Hernan Romero.

His studies in Amsterdam and New York contributed to his already wide circle of creative international acquaintances. As a leader he made his debut in 1999 and ever since the power of his creative energy has attracted an international selection of people (from Italy, Bulgaria, Spain, Indonesia, Turkey, Korea, and Latin America) with whom he shares artistic ideas. This CD features another of his international groups.

All of the compositions on this CD come from Kęstutis Vaiginis' quill. Convincing and original pieces testify to his talent as a composer, which complement his gifts as a leader and performer. The compositions are smartly crafted using both the tools of contemporary jazz and classical music yet are coloured with the Lithuanian character that is particularly brought out by the transparent, controlled, Northern, lyrical and emotional sound typical of Kęstutis' saxophones.

Jūratė Kučinskaitė

Šio CD autorius – Kęstutis Vaiginis (g. 1978), meistriškas ir ne pagal amžių brandus jaunosios kartos Lietuvos džiazmenas: saksofonininkas, kompozitorius, lyderis. Ilgą laiką savo kūrybines simpatijas dalinęs tarp akademinės muzikos ir džiazo, šiandien jis atstovauja džiazo scenai, teikiančiai platesnes saviraiškos galimybes.

Kęstučiui Vaiginiui 30. Dešimt iš jų paženklinta scenos. Per tuos metus jis užsitarnavo puikią reputaciją Lietuvos džiazo bendruomenėje, pasirodydamas tiek su savo kartos, tiek su patyrusiais džiazo meistrais, grodamas tiek su gimtosios šalies muzikantais, tiek su įvairių šalių kolegomis. Dar studijuodamas Lietuvos muzikos akademijoje jaunasis saksofonininkas grojo festivaliniuose projektuose su Barbara Dennerlein, Daniel Messina, Hernan Romero.

Studijos Amsterdame, stažuotė Niujorke dar labiau praplėtė jaunojo muziko tarptautinių kūrybinių pažinčių ratą. 1999-aisiais lyderio vaidmenyje debiutavusio Kęstučio Vaiginio kūrybinių idėjų trauka nuolat aplink jį suburia įvairių šalių bendraminčių būrelį - iš Italijos, Bulgarijos, Ispanijos, Indonezijos, Turkijos, Korėjos ir Lotynų Amerikos. Šioje kompaktinėje plokštelėje įamžinta dar viena tarptautinė Kęstučio grupė.

Visos šios kompaktinės plokštelės kompozicijos priklauso paties Kęstučio Vaiginio plunksnai. Įtaigūs originalūs kūriniai liudija jo kompozicinį talentą, puikiai papildantį jo kaip lyderio bei atlikėjo gabumus. Kompozicijose, sumaniai audžiamose iš moderniojo džiazo ir akademinės muzikos raiškos priemonių, juntamas ir nacionalinis koloritas, kurį paryškina Kęstučiui būdingas skaidrus kontroliuojamas saksofonų skambesys, šiaurietiškas lyriškumas ir emocionalumas.

Jūratė Kučinskaitė

I dedicate this album to my mother Viktorija Violeta

I would like to thank all musicians who created good energy and made this cd happen

Special thanks:

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania

My father Algimantas, Justin DiCiocco, Ruud van Dijk, Jonas Jučas, Rūta Skudienė, Zigmas Vileikis, Rūta Prusevičienė, Artūras and his family

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