

## SØREN KRISTIANSEN TRIO PRESSRELEASE

In the world of music, be it classical, pop or even jazz, we are being flooded by saleable youngsters who know it all from the start. We witness how producers put their money on musicians with no life experience other than what they picked up on their way from graduation to the negotiations which will make them stars overnight. Making your debut on the "wrong" side of 25 is definitely suspicious.

Danish pianist Søren Kristiansen followed a different path. Being in no hurry he didn't consider himself ready. He wanted to have something to say and almost had to be dragged into the recording studio to make his first recording as a leader. Having been on his way for a long time, he now carries along his own musical language, enabling him to approach music with respect and appetite.

Søren Kristiansen comes from the picturesque town of Ærøskøbing on one of the small islands south of Hans Christian Andersen's native island, Funen.

He has been playing jazz professionally since he was 21 primarily as a sideman. Among the bandleaders he has played and made several recordings with are two of the most prominent Danish mainstream musicians, clarinetist Jørgen Svare and tenor saxophonist Jesper Thilo. In their bands Kristiansen has been able to cultivate his gift for basic, unfailing swing.

The music on his own recording "Very early... Very late" is classic piano trio music as known in mainstream jazz for more than half a century. What's sensational about it is the musicians' maturity, their energy and their ability to interpret every note and every phrase distinctly. Notice the way in which the pianist alternates between rhythmically static and rhythmically mobile passages. Listen to the gracefully dancing development of "I got plenty of nothing", to the authoritative way in which the trio plays bebop in "Laverne Walk", how beautifully the rarely played ballad "I'm through with love" spreads out and how powerfully "For minors only" swings.

And there is yet another common denominator between the three musicians: their respect for the melody, their ability to give meaning to all the phrases and link them together.

And by the way. It swings like hell!!