

PRESS CLIPPINGS, *Anne Mette Iversen (Bandleader/Bass/Comp)*

CD “THIS IS MY HOUSE” and ANNE METTE IVERSEN QUARTET

Jazzreview.com, by John Barron

“With *This Is My House*, Brooklyn-based bassist/composer Anne Mette Iversen delivers a stunning collection of original progressive jazz, bursting with lively melodies, intricate ensemble interplay and high-flying improvisations. With the aid of tenor saxophonist John Ellis, pianist Danny Grissett and drummer Otis Brown III, Iversen’s music negotiates an exquisite balance between seriousness and unbridled joy. There is an overriding spirit of optimism that pervades the entire session.”

“Iversen’s bass playing is powerful, yet supportive. Her warm tone and bouncy lines seem to bring out the flavor of each tune while providing a comfortable jolt for her band mates. She solos with restrained passion on “Dear Captain” and “Den Flade”, manipulating the entire range of the bass to create highly melodic, vocal-like lines.”

“As a composer Iversen carves out an emotive landscape with sophistication and an abundance of melody.”

“The tight ensemble sound is one of a true quartet of collaborators who are able to anticipate each other’s every move.”

Dresdener Neue Nachrichten, by Beate Baum - review of live concert

“But in reality, what one is experiencing, right then and there, is a world-class night of music the likes of which you do not get many opportunities to experience...In her compositions, in which the whole American and Western European harmonic repertoire meet, so much charm and intelligent knowledge is hidden that you, the listener, are continuously provoked. Due to their swinging rhythms, though, they bring a smile to your lips and a twitch to your leg.”

“*This Is My House*’ is her latest CD, whose title is also a manifesto. Just as architects and engineers who, with their craft, create something marvelous, this music is expertly designed; and yet it is swinging freely.”

“It is music in it’s purest kind.”

All About Jazz NYC, Jan 2007, - Elliott Simon

“Iversen is an international Brooklyn transplant. Hailing from Denmark, she artfully blends classical European training with deliciously palpable arrangements of original music for a beautifully textured experience. This quartet boasts wizard John Ellis, whose own funky style has been a part of guitarist Charlie Hunter’s band, and drummer Otis Brown III, a fixture with tenor saxophonist Joe Lovano. Rounding out this foursome is pianist Danny Grissett who can usually be found sitting in with the finest of NYC jazzers or leading his own trio.

The broad rhythmic base of "Where to Place the House" is custom made for Ellis to wail against while "Hm#1", "Loisaida" and the burningly free funky closer "Up" give him liberal improvisatory reign to display his gorgeous tone. Grissett alternates lead and rhythm to add an interesting openness to "And Off They Went" before he exquisitely opens the Asian-tinged smoky ballad "Dear Captain". With all this power at her disposal, Iversen adeptly leads things through a myriad of colors with precision and creativity. Both these offerings from Brooklyn-based artists whet the appetite for more of the borough's new underground sound."

Jazz Special Aug/Sept 2006, - Finn Slumstrup

"There is an atmosphere of serious ease. The seriousness is conveyed through the attitude of the musicians from the first downbeat. They take this music seriously, and they perform it without any unnecessary errands or pandering on the way. We are presented with contemporary jazz music of the most pure kind."

Jazz Critic Henrik Sejerkilde, July 2006

"What is remarkable about these musicians and this CD is the intense communication between the musicians and the way they listen to and interact with each other...A very strong release that should be able to open doors at venues worldwide...The tone in the melodic material has a Scandinavian flavor, while the performance is boosted with a thoughtful New York-drive."

CD "ON THE OTHER SIDE"

Politiken, January 2005, Boris Rabinowitsch

"Every single time I hear this music, it leaves deep impressions in my soul. Whether the varying stylistic elements play alongside each other or work together in a perfect synthesis, the musicians always play and sing with nerve, depth and presence; making the music come across very convincingly and powerfully."

"The compositions are in a musical language that occasionally approaches the atonal, and the arrangements for the string quartet are totally free from stereotypical "jazzy" influences. The pieces Reprise and Pokus #2 are, to my ears, extremely expressive contemporary classical music."

"I was extremely fascinated by the CD" - *Laurence Donohue-Greene, All About Jazz, New York, June 2004*

"...Iversen's own bass-playing, working seamlessly with Mark McLean's drumming, is unquestionable yet supportive..." - *Thorbjørn Sjøgren, Jazz Special, February/March 2005*

CULTURAL AWARD

“The Danish jazz musician and composer Anne Mette Iversen has received a Cultural Award from The American-Scandinavian Society in New York.

The prize is awarded for her recent artistic achievements, including her many performances as a double bassist with her own and other’s groups and for her work as a composer.” - *Information, September 25, 2004*

VARIOUS

“In New York, where Anne Mette Iversen, physically and musically, has resided the past 6 years, she is acknowledged for her talent for integrating jazz with the European music tradition.” - *Aarhus Stiftstidende, March 4, 2005*

“Music from the other side. Nowadays, in the rest of the world, female jazz musicians are no longer a rarity. It is not every day, though, that you find the type that can both play upright bass and compose and make a life in New York. But Anne Mette Iversen, now 32, has since 1998 worked and lived in The Jazz Capital (New York). Last year she released “On the Other Side” where she fused a jazz musician’s universe with classical and traditional song and music...” - “*Recommended*” *Kjeld Frandsen, Berlingske Tidende, March 11, 2005*

“The music is filled with lyrical, melodic themes.”

“Her personal style comes out of her special talent for integrating jazz and European classical music tradition...Combined with her astonishing soloistic achievements” - *Hans Jørn Kristensen, Jydske Vestkysten, March 7, 2005*