

Radiostars New 5-star review of Mannish from Jazzstjerner.dk

The most interesting music is always music based on originality. Michael Blicher, bandleader of Radiostar has just released the second Radiostar album called Mannish. He has the following comments on the music on his website:

I have since the release of the debut album, It cannot bleed studied bluesmusic in its purest forms and found that there exists a universal blues feeling in folk music from such different places like Bulgaria, South Korea, Mali and Mississippi. Michael has to travelled to South Korea, Bulgaria and USA to find inspiration to be able to write music with this universal blues feeling.(www.michaelblicher.dk)

Sounds like a recipe for something original? Surely! Mannish is a wonderful album that moves effortlessly between different stylistic and ambience universes. On the album you find music inspired by Muddy Waters / Chicago Blues such as the excellent opening Ballyhoo (The guitar riff gave me a flashback to Dire Straits and their "Money For Nothing") or Familiar Faces, featuring distorted and so tight guitar playing from Niclas Knudsen. You will also find tracks like the incredibly beautiful ballads To Be Loved and All The Best To You, songs wonderful songs with a musical language, peacefullness and brilliant interplay between Lundin and Blichers saxophones that finds its inspiration somewhere between Africa and Mississippi.

Despite the huge diversity the album leaves an amazingly homogeneous impression. How? - Firstly, the interplay is simply amazing with Niclas Knudsen, Thomas Vang and Anders Holm as a hard-swinging rythmsection and Frederik Lundin and Michael Blicher as two saxophonetwins. Secondly, the melodies are intelligent, catchy and moving. Thirdly - and this I see as truly fatastic - the band has a very unique and orignal sound nomatter which kind of music they play. Many others could learn from that. I surrender - Mannish is an excellent follower to It cannot bleed!