

Alex Huber

«Chimaira»

Momentum.Fragility.Ecstasy.Sound.Fun

This band invites the careful listener to a sound world of intimate fragility up to virtuoso ecstasy. Vivid communication, joy, a high willingness to carry a risk and an strong sense for the momentum characterises this band. The compositions form the framework, set a mood, give a direction, but also give a lot of room for strong decisions. They are a platform for collective improvisation. This is music for both mind and heart!

CD

Alex Huber «Chimaira» - Smoke & Mirrors

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Produced by Alex Huber

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from left to right: John Schröder, Alex Huber, Oliver Potratz, Philipp Gropper

Biographies

Philipp Gropper - Saxophone

Born in Berlin (D). He studied at Universität der Künste (UdK) in Berlin from 1999 - 2006 with Jerry Granelli, Peter Weniger and David Friedman. Member of BuJazzO from 2000-2002.

His own Projects include Hyperactive Kid, PHILM and Sartre's Croissant.

As a sideman he played with the European Movement Jazz Orchester, Mads La Cours Quintett „à la Cour“ (Winner of a Danish Grammy 2009), Fusk, Wanja Slavin Quartett, Johannes Haages Party of Five, Pierre Borell Septett, Uwe Steinmetz Stream Ensemble, Axis of Good etc.

He also had the opportunity to play with Ralph Towner, Bobby McFerrin, Günter Baby Sommer, Carsten Daerr, Kalle Kalima, Peter Herbolzheimer, Kresten Osgood, Maria Joao, Rudi Mahal, Vania Fernandes, John Schröder etc. He won several competitions and is a member of Jazzkollektiv Berlin.

John Schröder – Piano

Born in Frankfurt am Main (D). After his first gigs as a guitarist in 1978, the press called him a „child prodigy“. He played in a trio with Dieter Ilg and Wolfgang Haffner, with Joe Gallivan, Roberto di Gioia and many more. As a drummer, he was founding member of „Der Rote Bereich“ (with Frank Möbus and Rudi Mahall) and won many awards with this group. As a bass player, he played with Achim Kaufmann. As a pianist, he's leading his trio and is a sideman in other groups. In short, he's one of most interesting and underrated musician in Europe. Other collaborations include Albert Mangelsdorff, James Moody, Joe Lovano, Randy Brecker, Enrico Rava, Chet Baker etc.

Oliver Potratz - Doublebass

Born in Hamburg (D). He started playing the violin at the age of ten. He switched to double bass and studied classical bass and later Jazz at Universität der Künste in Berlin with Sigi Busch, David Friedman und Jerry Granelli. His flexibility and skills allow him to play different genres of music, from works for solo bass by John Cage and other contemporary classical music to folk music and Jazz. He played on all five continents with bands like Carsten Daerr Trio, Klima Kalima or musicians as Maurice de Martin, Thomasz Stanko, Bobby McFerrin etc.

Alex Huber – Drums, Percussion & Composition

Born in Zug (CH). Started playing drums at the age of ten, then stopped for several years. Nonetheless he studied at Lucerne School of music with Pierre Favre, Dejan Terzic, Lucas Niggli. After graduation (with honors) he moved to Berlin, where he lives now. He's leader of a Swiss guitar trio Sonar Ensemble, a Duo with German saxophonist Silke Eberhard and is involved in other groups as a sideman.

He is winner of the recognition award of the Ida and Albert Flersheim Foundation and twice a winner of the subsidy award of Canton Zug. He played all over Europe with musicians as Nils Wogram, Frank Möbus, Daniel Erdmann, Colin Vallon, Claudio Puntin etc.