

Artistic Activity.

Blood Sweat Drum'n'Bass Big Band & DJM Big Band with Carlos Malta and Pife Muderno

DET JYSKE MUSIKKONSERVATORIUM
royal academy of music



Blood Sweat Drum'n'Bass Big Band history:

Originally "Blood, Sweat Drum'n'Bass" is the title of a suite consisting of the first six pieces released on the CD "Blood Sweat Drum'n Bass Big Band" Olufsen Records 2004. The suite was written by Jens Chr. "Chappe" Jensen for extended Big Band and had its first performance in Aarhus Festival Week 2001. The suite is based on original Drum'n bass beats — and the rhythm section is the focus of this big band which now consist of two singers, 14 wind players, 2 guitars, 2 double basses, 2 keyboards and as many as 3 drummers. Blood Sweat Drum'n'Bass Big Band was, after its first performance in 2001, resurrected at The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus's 75th anniversary in 2002 and again at Aarhus International Jazz Festival also in 2002. And now it has become an independent institution supported by the City of Aarhus. The three (now two) singers has given the orchestra an even more unique sound, and some of all the different colors can be enjoyed throughout release Vocalised & Studio Recordings: "Live sessions with Arve Henriksen" from 2006 .During the summer 2007 BSDnB worked with multiinstrumentalist Jørgen Munkeby from Norway (Shining) and in the fall with saxophonist Erwin Vann from Belgium. In January 2008 BSDnB & Jørgen Munkeby released the album: "Live sessions with Jørgen Munkeby" with recordings from Roskilde Festival and Aarhus International Jazz festival, and also did a release tour. Recently BSDnB has been touring with the Danish legend Palle Mikkelborg on trumpet with a brand new program written by Jens Christian "Chappe" Jensen especially for this tour.



DJM Big Band history:

The Big Band of The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus
The Big Band of The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus consists of rhythmic as well as classical students. The Big Band goes on tour 2-4 times a year conducted or assisted by different prominent people such as Maria Schneider, Fred Sturm, Geir Lysne, Lars Jansson, Steffen Schorn, Lars Møller, Bill Warfield, Marie Bergman, Michael Abene, Dennis Mackrel, David Liebman and Tim Hagans. The day to day head of the band is ass. professor Jens Chr. "Chappe" Jensen. For the opening of the new conservatory Jens Chr. "Chappe" Jensen arranged several original Brazilian tunes along with tunes written by Carlos Mala. The concert was a fantastic meeting between big band and Carlos Malta (saxes and flutes) with the fantastic folklore group Pife Muderno.

Method:

The melodic, harmonic and rhythmic ideas for writing these arrangements derives from intense studies of the original recordings of the tunes, and similar Brazilian music. Also Wayne Shorters solo on the original Milton Nascimento recording of Nada Sera Como Antes is incorporated in this unique arrangement.



Arve Henriksen



Palle Mikkelborg, Gunhild Overegseth & Turid Guldin



Carlos Malta



Pife Muderno



Jørgen Munkeby



Chappe

Method:

Writing for this band is a very special process. Basically the idea is writing for this very special instrumentation with inspiration from some of the more contemporary styles of music. For instance Drum'n bass, Electronica and on the project with Jørgen Munkeby: Metal-jazz. But always with using all the sources in contemporary writings for large jazz ensembles. Gil Evans, Thad Jones & Maria Schneider are among the great inspirations. But most important is off course the performance of the arrangements including the creativity from all the devoted musicians in the band, and off course also role of the conductor guiding the musicians through the different musical landscapes

Results:

50 compositions/arrangements especially for BSDnB. 3 CD's
2 Video productions and approx. 20 live concerts per year.

Blood Sweat Drum'n Bass Big Band CD 2004



Vocalised & Studio recordings CD 2006



Live Sessions with Jørgen Munkeby CD 2008



Results:

9 arrangements + CD-recording
Release very soon
1 Video productions and 5 live concerts during Aarhus Festival Week 2007

Perspective for both projects:

- Creating new music for different big band settings.
- Development of new pedagogical methods for large ensembles
- Through concerts stimulating new audience for this type of music
- Creating jobs for young musicians

Jens Chr. "Chappe" Jensen is an ass. Professor at The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus and all the music & arrangements are written as "artistic activity" at The Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus

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