

FRANZ VON CHOSSY TRIO

Life Theater

(o-tone music, March 2019)

Franz von Chossy	piano and composition
Clemens van der Feen	bass
Kristijan Krajncan	drums



Award winning pianist and composer Franz von Chossy, after working for five years with his Quintet, which has been celebrated as one of the most "most fascinating and entertaining bands of the Netherlands." (Jazzenzo, 2013), returns back to his jazz base: the piano trio, with which he had previously released two albums and won the Dutch Jazz Competition in the categories "best band" and "best soloist" back in 2006.

On the new trio album *Life Theater*, Franz manages in a clever way to transfer the musical possibilities of the quintet to the trio. More than once, you think that you are listening to a quartet, quintet, perhaps even a sextet. There are few composers who play so cleverly with sounds and are able to use the qualities of the instrumentalists, including themselves, so well. Even more than ever, Franz's classical background, as well as many encounters with various musical cultures, reinforces the great effect of his music.

Life Theater is a soundtrack to life, in which the different pieces represent life phases. In this he is a perfectionist with a clear narrative in mind: the compositions all have a personal background, just like the chosen titles, in which the order of the entire story is important for the whole listening experience. In this story, you meet characters and discover character traits within yourself. The wealth of sounds stimulates the imagination. We begin with the peaceful playing and exploring of a child, then come dark mountains and obstacles that have to be overcome. In other phases, there are the pleasant and nasty people that we encounter. Finally, we encounter ageing and the beauty of transience. The first four compositions form the first half of life, the middle part, "The Wanderer," is the lifeline itself, and the last four pieces represent the last part of life.

At almost every moment, perhaps in every tone, there is a certain melancholy. Franz looks for the right chords for a captivating drama. But it rarely sounds very heavy. *Life Theater* feels like an exhilarating journey, where you see all kind of things and meet all kind of people in order to return home in a cheerful and fresh way. Once in a while, during a climax with repetitive motifs, when a scene seems to end in a catastrophe, he closes with comforting notes.

Musically, the album is playful and well thought out. The irregular and compound meters sound very natural because of the spontaneous interplay of all three musicians. Drummer Kristijan Krajncan, who also provided the cello overdubs, is a master in playing with and around the beat. He senses perfectly when the music requires volume or subtlety. For more than a decade, Clemens van der Feen has been the most agile bass player in The Netherlands, profiling himself in diverse worlds, simultaneously playing intuitively and beautifully.

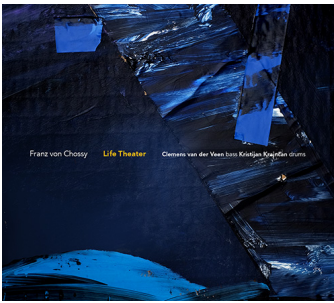
And Franz von Chossy has distinguished himself with his crystal clear sounds. Within both the virtuoso solos and the tiny played motifs, you can discern all of his intention. In the repeating themes, the effective unison playing with the bass, and the lamentable Balkan rhythms, you imagine yourself with your eyes closed in a movie theater.

(text by Tim Spranger, Dutch journalist)

www.franzvonchossy.com

www.facebook.com/fvchossy

Discography (as a leader)



Franz von Chossy Trio

"Life Theater"

2019, otone-music



Franz von Chossy Quintet

"When the World comes Home"

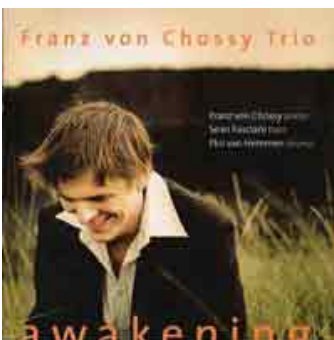
2012, JazzSick Records



Franz von Chossy Trio

"Pendulum"

2010, Etcetera-Records



Franz von Chossy Trio

"Awakening"

2006, Jazz Impuls

FRANZ VON CHOSSY PERFORMING EXPERIENCE:

CLUBS/ CONCERT HALLS SELECTION

Bimhuis – Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Concertgebouw – Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Paradox – Tilburg, The Netherlands
De Doelen – Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Lantaren/Venster – Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Chassé Theater – Breda, The Netherlands
Muziekgebouw Eindhoven, The Netherlands
Philharmonie Haarlem, The Netherlands
Schouwburg – Deventer, The Netherlands
Regentes – Den Haag, The Netherlands
Muis Sacrum – Arnhem, The Netherlands
Bozar – Brussels, Belgium
Sounds Jazz Club – Brussels, Belgium
Flagey – Brussels, Belgium
Vortex Jazz Club – London, GB
Pizza Express Jazz Club – London, GB
Purcell Room – London, GB
Gothenburg Concert Hall - Sweden
Duc des Lombards – Paris, France
Sunside – Paris, France
Studio de l'Ermitage – Paris, France
Petit Journal Montparnasse – Paris, France
Espace Culturel Dj Reinhardt – Strasbourg, France
Théâtre Municipal – Beaune, France
Schloss Elmau – Elmau, Germany
Jazzmeile – Jena, Germany
Elbphilharmonie – Hamburg, Germany
Kölner Philharmonie – Köln, Germany
A-Trane - Berlin, Germany
B-Flat – Berlin, Germany
Konzerthaus – Dortmund, Germany
Jazzkeller – Frankfurt, Germany
Jazzstudio – Nürnberg, Germany
Jazzschmiede - Düsseldorf, Germany
Unterfahrt München – Germany
Consoltheater – Gelsenkirchen, Germany
Philharmonie Luxembourg – Luxembourg
Moods – Zürich, Switzerland
Brucknerhaus - Linz, Austria
Treibhaus, Innsbruck, Austria
Porgy & Bess - Vienna, Austria
Megaron - Athens, Greece
Seymour Centre – Sydney, Australia
Arcub theater – Bucharest, Romania
LIG Art Hall – Busan, South Korea
Shanghai Concert Hall – Shanghai, China
JZ Club – Shanghai, China
Guangzhou Opera House – Guangzhou, China
B10 – Shenzhen, China
Cemal Resit Rey Concert Hall – Istanbul, Turkey
55 Bar – New York, USA
Joe-s Pub – New York, USA
Kennedy Arts Center – Washington, USA
DROM – New York, USA
Cotton Club – Tokyo, Japan
Astral – Montreal, Canada
The Rex – Toronto, Canada
Yardbird – Edmonton, Canada

FESTIVAL SELECTION

North Sea Jazz Festival - Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Amersfoort Jazz Festival – Amersfoort, The Netherlands
Delft Jazz Festival – Delft, The Netherlands
November Music Festival – Den Bosch, The Netherlands
Jazz Out! Festival – Heerlen, The Netherlands
Jazzfest Amsterdam – The Netherlands
Jazz sous les Pommiers – Coutance, France
Nantes Jazz Festival - France
London Jazz Festival – London - United Kingdom
Musicport Festival – Whitby, United Kingdom
Thessaloniki Jazz Festival - Greece
Jazz au Chellah – Rabat, Morocco
Sunfest - London Ontario, Canada
International Jazz Festival Melbourne – Australia
Brussels Jazz Marathon – Belgium
Zinco Jazz Festival – Mexico City - Mexico
European Jazz Festival Athens – Greece
Printemps Musical – Luxembourg
Echternach Festival - Luxembourg
Baku Jazz Festival – Baku, Azerbeidzjan
Nargen Jazz Festival – Tallinn – Estonia
Olin Kan Festival – Mexico City , Mexico
Elbjazz Festival – Hamburg, Germany
Jazzahead – Bremen, Germany
Münsterland Jazzfestival - Germany
Musikbiennale Niederrhein – Kempen, Germany
Leverkusener Jazztage – Leverkusen, Germany
Jazz and Joy Festival – Worms, Germany
Pallatia Jazz - Germany
Hildener Jazztage – Hilden, Germany
Jazzfestival Altstadt Salzburg - Austria
New-Port Jazz Festival – Nieuwpoort, Belgium
Jazz Festival – Middelheim, Belgium
Gaume Jazz Festival – Rossignol, Belgium
C-mine Jazz Festival – Genk, Belgium
Jazz au Chellah - Rabat - Marocco
Ethnoport Festival – Poznan, Poland
International Jazz Festival Jarasum – Jarasum, South Korea
Baku Jazz Festival – Baku, Azerbaijan
Jo Jazz Festival – Havana, Cuba
Amman Jazz Festival – Amman, Jordan
Akbank Jazz Festival - Istanbul, Turkey
Oct-Loft Jazz Festival – Shenzhen, China
Fete de la Musique - Shun De, China
Chang Sha International Jazz Festival - Changsha, China
International Jazz Festival – Hainan, China
Jazz Promenade – Yokohama, Japan
Summer Jazz Festival – Krakow, Poland
Katowice Euromed Festival – Katowice, Poland
Jazz na Starowce – Warsaw, Poland
Bohemia Jazz Festival – Prague, Czech Republic
Chicago World Music Festival – Chicago, USA
Vilnius Jazz Festival – Vilnius, Lithuania