

Just Listen
Records

First Meeting

Harmen Fraanje Trio

Special Guest

Fredrik Ljungkvist





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JL009

Recorded in Direct Stream Digital [DSD256]

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Harmen Fraanje Trio - special guest **Fredrik Ljungkvist**

Fredrik Ljungkvist - **tenor saxophone and clarinet**

Harmen Fraanje - **piano**

Clemens van der Feen - **double bass**

Tristan Renfrow - **drums**

1. Several (H. Fraanje) 8:19
2. Bread Of Life (C. van der Feen) 5:44
3. Pi (H. Fraanje) 3:23
4. Ida Lupino (Carla Bley, arr. H. Fraanje) 5:17
5. Fade (H. Fraanje) 1:48
6. A Small Ray Of Light (H. Fraanje) 3:09
7. XYZ (H. Fraanje) 2:57
8. PH (F. Ljungkvist) 2:51
9. Epi (H. Fraanje) 3:30
10. Safe (H. Fraanje) 2:48
11. Goodbye (H. Fraanje) 4:47

Recorded in Direct Stream Digital [DSD256] by the
founders of NativeDSD.com

Harmen Fraanje, born in Roosendaal, Netherlands in 1976, is one of the most adventurous Dutch jazz pianists. He is a musician who is exceptionally active internationally alongside colleagues from France, Belgium, Scandinavia and the United States. Harmen co-leads a trio with Dutch cellist Ernst Reijseger and Senegalese singer Mola Sylla, performing concerts throughout the world.

His special abilities have not gone unnoticed. He has been commissioned to compose original music for the North Sea Jazz festival, in addition to winning the Prince Bernard Culture Fund Prize Noord Brabant. Fraanje is also a lecturer at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam.

In addition to the Dutch double bass player Clemens van der Feen, his newest ensemble includes California-born drummer Tristan Renfrow. Swedish saxophone player Fredrik Ljungkvist was invited to join the trio as a guest artist. Fraanje says "I always try to create as much space as possible for the musicians I play with, so that everyone can concentrate on the present moment to tell their own personal story."

His latest album is a new DSD (Direct Stream Digital) recording for the high-end label Just Listen. The album has an open characteristic with music that provides endless space for creativity. It evolved as music with no prepared plans but only full attention to the creative process. This is a way of thinking and playing that you do not often encounter in the recording process..

Illustrative of his approach is the opening track 'Several'. A simple musical motif develops smoothly from behind the piano. In the meantime doors are gradually opened for the tenor saxophone of Ljungkvist. It is music that is almost incomprehensible as if it were floating in the air.

Contrabassist Van der Feen is the author of 'Bread Of Life', a melody that puts you back on the floor with both feet and gives space to the poetic clarinet of Ljungkvist. The beautiful piano solo 'Pi' forms a bridge to the classic 'Ida Lupino' by Carla Bley. "I think this is one of the most beautiful pieces ever composed in jazz, so simple and so sincere," says the leader. Melancholic sounds emerge from Ljungkvist's tenor saxophone over the mobile rhythm section. 'Fade' forms an organic transition with slowly dying away music, as the title suggests. Fraanje's subtle 'A Small Ray Of Light' brings "an atmosphere of light and hope" as the composer indicates. A mood that alternates with the meditative 'XYZ', a piece with recurring motifs and a feature for the drummer.

Impressive is 'PH', a homage written by Ljungkvist for Per Henrik Wallin (1946-2005), the 'Thelonious Monk' of Swedish jazz. This is a piece that has its roots in bebop. A flashback that is unexpectedly alternated by the free 'Epi', with a leading role for the ecstatic tenor saxophone. The compact and melodic 'Safe' forms a fitting contrast: "An almost Radiohead-like tune", according to Fraanje.

'Goodbye' is a temporary farewell that makes you want more music from this unique Jazz ensemble. It is a special formation that gives this music a new dimension to the concept of lyricism. The fine DSD recording is icing on the cake as the album comes to a close.

— **Cyriel Pluimakers, jazz critic**



Saxophonist and clarinetist Fredrik Ljungkvist born 1969 in Kristinehamn and raised in Lidköping. After completing his studies at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm 1989-1993 established itself Fredrik Ljungkvist quickly as one of the most sought after saxophonists. He played among others with Fredrik Norén Band and his own quartet. In recent years he has worked with artists and bands such as Per "Texas" Johansson, LSB (Ljungqvist, Stridh, Berthling), Lina Nyberg, Bobo Stensson, Ken Vandermarks Territory Band, Mats Gustafsson, Paavo 3, Anders Jormin, Georg Riedel, Kris Davis, Alexander von Schlippenbach, Trondheim Jazz Orchestra and Per Henrik Wallin.

Fredrik has been involved in nearly 100 jazz records and has been awarded numerous prizes and scholarships, as well as nominated for Dagens Nyheter Cultural Prize.

In 2004 he received the Jazz Cat of the Swedish Radio Jazz Radio for this year's jazz musicians In 2011 he was awarded the Royal Academy Jazz Prize 2011 for a deeply compelling musicianship marked by great warmth and captivating vitality. Fredrik was selected to honor the award winner Wayne Shorter at the Polar Prize ceremony at the Concert Hall in Stockholm in June 2017.

Ljungkvist is scientific director of the saxophone on jazz institution at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm.

He tours periodically intensely with Norwegian / Swedish band Atomic. The band has had great success among others in the US, Canada, France, Spain and Japan. Fredrik also leads bands Yun Kan 3, Yun Kan 5 and Yun Kan 10

**Fredrik
Ljungkvist**



Clemens van der Feen

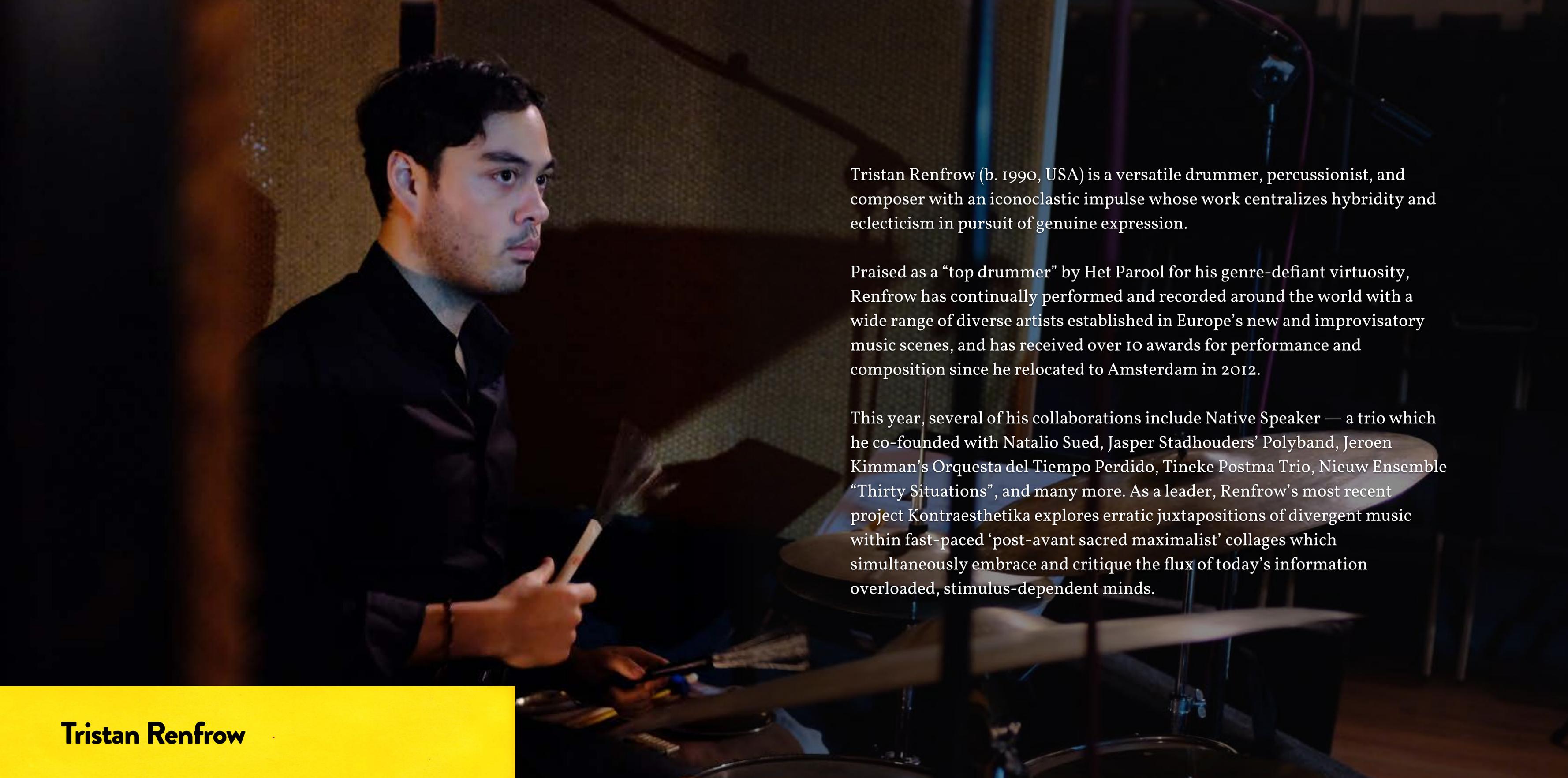
After some occasional drumming on various items, Clemens (1980) began singing and playing bass in the band of his older brothers (the Feenbrothers) at the age of eleven. Later on, he studied jazz and classical bass at the Conservatories of Amsterdam and Detmold (Germany) and received his Master Degree in both fields with honors.

After playing with orchestras like the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra and the Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century, he got back into studying and playing jazz and improvised music mainly. For that reason he lived in New York for a while to take private lessons with Ben Street and John Pattituci, among others.

In 2010 Clemens started the Clemens van der Feen Band, resulting in an album called “High Places” (2011), with as special guest the great Toots Thielemans! The year 2013 saw the birth of yet a new band, the Clemens van der Feen 4tet, and a new album: “14PM” which was called “one of the highlights of Dutch contemporary jazz...” by Jazzism Magazine.

Clemens is currently working with Tutu Puoane (SA), Dré Pallemmaerts ‘Seva’ feat. Sebastian Gille and Pablo Held (BE/GER/NL), the Michael Moore Quartet feat. Harmen Fraanje and Gerry Hemingway (US/NL), ‘Medusa Beats’ featuring Jonas Burgwinkel (DE) and Benoît Delbecq (FR), the Paul Lay Trio (FR), Robin Verheyen (BE), Maartje Meijer (NL), Octurn (BE/FR), Franz von Chossy (DE) and every now and then with classical groups like the New Dutch Academy, The Dutch Wind Ensemble and Grammy Award winning orchestra LUDWIG. In days gone by, Clemens has played with many great international musicians such as the late Toots Thielemans, Tony Malaby, Chris Potter, Nelson Veras, Becca Stevens & Billy Hart.

Clemens has been playing all over the world, from jazz clubs in Paris and Tokyo to the Musikverein in Vienna and Carnegie Hall in New York. Clemens plays on a double bass from the collection of the NMF.



Tristan Renfrow (b. 1990, USA) is a versatile drummer, percussionist, and composer with an iconoclastic impulse whose work centralizes hybridity and eclecticism in pursuit of genuine expression.

Praised as a “top drummer” by Het Parool for his genre-defiant virtuosity, Renfrow has continually performed and recorded around the world with a wide range of diverse artists established in Europe’s new and improvisatory music scenes, and has received over 10 awards for performance and composition since he relocated to Amsterdam in 2012.

This year, several of his collaborations include Native Speaker — a trio which he co-founded with Natalio Sued, Jasper Stadhouders’ Polyband, Jeroen Kimman’s Orquesta del Tiempo Perdido, Tineke Postma Trio, Nieuw Ensemble “Thirty Situations”, and many more. As a leader, Renfrow’s most recent project Kontraesthetika explores erratic juxtapositions of divergent music within fast-paced ‘post-avant sacred maximalist’ collages which simultaneously embrace and critique the flux of today’s information overloaded, stimulus-dependent minds.

Tristan Renfrow

According to the internationally acclaimed website AllAboutJazz “Harmen Fraanje is emerging as one of the most impressive young European pianists of the past decade.” Harmen Fraanje (1976) is a pianist, composer and educator from the Netherlands. He leads and co-leads several projects like his solo project, trio Reijseger Fraanje Sylla, a quartet with Magic Malik, Brice Soniano and Toma Gouband, a trio with Aino Peltomaa and Mikko Perkola, duo with Anton Goudsmit and a new quartet with Fredrik Ljungkvist, Clemens van der Feen and Tristan Renfrow. These groups mostly perform original works with a lot of space for improvisation. Harmen is also very active as a sideman in various projects in the European jazz scene, like several groups of Mats Eilertsen and Michael Moore’s Fragile Quartet.

With these projects he frequently performs at festivals and concert venues throughout the world. Recordings of the projects he’s involved in have been released by renowned record labels like ECM, Winter & Winter, Hubro Music, Challenge Jazz...

Harmen collaborated with the likes of Ambrose Akinmusire, Mark Turner, Arve Henriksen, Kenny Wheeler, Thomas Morgan, Tony Malaby, Han Bennink, Magic Malik, Nelson Veras, Cristina Branco, Theo Bleckmann, Ben Monder, Enrico Rava, Werner Herzog, Trio Mediaeval, Perico Sambeat, Igor Roma, Louis Moholo, Ferenc Kovács, Rudi Mahall, Trygve Seim...

Harmen is in the faculty of the Conservatory of Amsterdam / University of the Arts Amsterdam. He is frequently invited to give workshops and masterclasses at other conservatories in Europe.

Harmen currently lives in Amsterdam with his wife Esther and their three sons.



Harmen Fraanje

PRODUCTION CREDITS

NativeDSD Music, Just Listen Records

PRODUCERS

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SESSION PHOTOGRAPHY

Jonas Sacks

COVER DRAWING

Finn Fraanje

LINER NOTES

Cyriel Pluimakers

RECORDING LOCATION

MCO, Hilversum the Netherlands

RECORDING DATE

December 2017

SPECIAL THANKS

Floor van der Holst, Ted Brady, Brian Moura, Bill Dodd, Cyriel Pluimakers

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

MICROPHONES

Bruel&Kjaer 4006, Schoeps, AKG

DIGITAL CONVERTER

DSD256 Horus, Merging Technologies

SPEAKERS

Audiolab, Holland

AMPLIFIERS

Van Medevoort, Holland

CABLES

van den Hul

MIXING BOARD

Rens Heijnis, custom design

EDITING SOFTWARE

Pyramix, Merging Technologies

MASTERING ROOM SPEAKERS

Grimm LSI

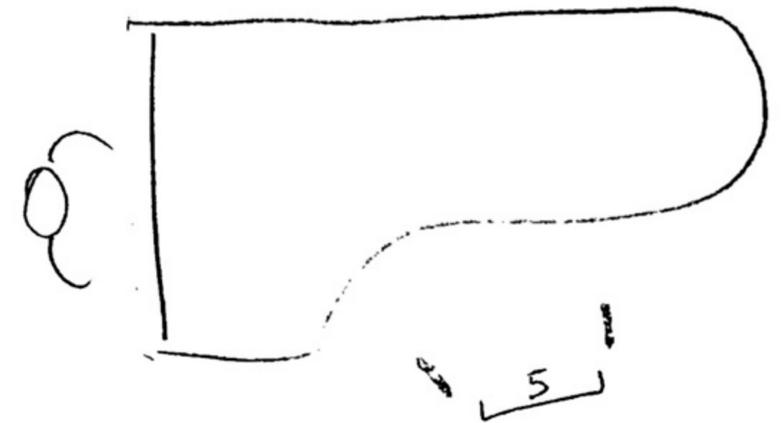
JLoos

DSD
Direct Stream Digital

MICROPHONE SETUP

1. BTK 4006
2. Sennheiser & BTK 4011] ms
3. Sennheiser mpm 91
4. Josephson C700A ¹³⁴³
5. Schuyts mk 21
6. BTK 4006
7. Audix D 6
8. BTK 4006 Surrounds

Rens Heijmans Betty Powell pre amps
 Neigij Technology 1kms
 256 DS
 Hilvander Hd 3T Carbon cable



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