

Mariane Bitran

ALL ONE

The flute is a fascinating instrument. The sound may be delicate, lean, elegant and ethereal - seductive in every respect. But the flute is also an extension of the breath and an intensification of feelings and emotions.

Mariane Bitran plays the flute. There are no saxophones of any kind, neither as a main instrument nor on the sideline. She was born in 1960, and in 1998 she moved from Paris to Copenhagen. She uses the full range of her instrument, from the elusive to the expressive; from the highly delicate to the most passionate.

In jazz, only few instrumentalists have chosen the flute as their main instrument. But luckily Mariane is within our reach - that is: if she's not somewhere abroad, where the talented flutist is highly in demand.

Over the years Mariane Bitran has been playing in many constellations, both here and in France, for she needs to be playing different kinds of music. She says that openness and imagination are important elements in her world. And that's exactly what she displays on her second cd under her own name.

When speaking about ALL ONE she explains that she "followed her intuition". Her chosen musicians are also strong personalities who understand how to best use the musical space. Two of the finest young French musicians play important roles; she knew both guitarist Olivier Cahours and percussionist Christoph Lavergne from Cahours' quartet. Bassist Thomas Fonnesbæk also played on Mariane's first cd, and pianist Rasmus Ehlers is a new acquaintance whose chemistry fits in perfectly. In addition there's guitarist and singer Alain Dodji Apaloo from Togo and percussionist Dawda Jobarteh.

On ALL ONE Mariane Bitran gets around - from world music over hard-core jazz and standards to Danish Carl Nielsen's masterpiece for the flute, "Tågen letter (The fog is lifting)", in a brand new and refreshingly different version.

It goes without saying that no-one knows exactly what will happen in the studio, but Mariane Bitran believes in her intuition and is able to link the jazz culture with her inspiration from both world music and classical music. She is a great musician, who plays with elegance and an unusually beautiful sound. At the same time she has a true and progressive jazz-mind and close ties with world music. She's a virtuoso on her instrument, the interplay is intimate and receptive, and the musical expression is appealing, wide-ranging and original. For, as Mariane Bitran puts it: "Basically it's all just music."

Mariane Bitran (fl), Olivier Cahours (ac g), Rasmus Ehlers (p), Thomas Fonnesbæk (b), Christophe Lavergne (dr, perc) + Alain Dodji Apaloo (g, voc), Dawda Jobarteh (perc)

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