

BEN BESIAKOV

WITH BILLY HART, RAY DRUMMOND, GEORGE GARZONE & JENS WINTHER

AVIATION

Ben Besiakov is the epitome of jazz. He stands alone in Danish jazz, a piano talent in a class of his own - an intuitive and emotional artist with passionate expression and an amazing rhythmic drive. His inexhaustible energy and ability to join in and be part of different constellations has made the 45-year-old pianist a highly popular side man here, there and everywhere ever since the early years in the band Buki Yamaz. He doesn't try to elbow his way to the top by recording one cd after another, and even though musicians everywhere are eager to get to play with Ben and praise him for his authenticity and inventive playing, he's only made two trio recordings under his own name.

Ben Besiakov is no born band leader, but a recording was to be made when he was in New York and had gathered a wonderful group of his favourite musicians in connection with "The Danish Wave" cultural campaign in New York. After a live gig he went into the legendary Manhattan studio Sound on Sound with his American peers and none other than Jabers Farber as sound technician. It turned out to be an incredible session, with drummer Billy Hart, bass player Ray Drummond, tenor sax player George Garzone and his old Danish sparring partner, trumpeter Jens Winther.

They gave it all they got - they knew one another and there wasn't a lot of talking and planning, just a number of good tunes. A hard-swinging Jens Winther tune opens up in a Blakey sort of way, then there's Ben Besiakov's own tough blues, a couple of standards, a few free-ish tunes and a bit of Brazil as an extra spice. And Ben doesn't content himself with supplying the powder for the soloists; he's the focal point, obviously enjoying exercising his great talent. They all exerted themselves, and now the recording is finally ready - a sparkling pearl, a real jazz record with a capital J ...

Aviation/ 1. Science or practice of flying aircraft. 2. Design and manufacture of aircraft: (attrib) *the aviation business/industry.*

George Garzone: Tenor sax, **Ray Drummond:** Bass, **Billy Hart:** Drums, **Ben Besiakov:** Piano & **Jens Winther:** Trumpet.

THAT'S THE WAY / AVIATION / THE NIGHT HAS A THOUSAND EYES / BODY & SOUL / VOZE EU / SQUARE TIME / BLUES ON THE SQUARE 63.50

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