



MALENE MORTENSEN / MALENE

We know Malene Mortensen by her first name. The 24-year old Danish vocalist with the soaring career is ready with her third solo album.

The world has seen quite a lot of Malene during the past year. She has toured Norway, Sweden, Germany, Great Britain, Poland, Russia, Thailand (twice!) - and naturally Denmark. Her November 16 performance at the London Jazz Festival will be followed by a two week tour of Germany before returning to her native Copenhagen for a concert at the Copenhagen JazzHouse.

In other words, our close affiliation with Malene is not due to an overnight, one-hit pop wonder, already fading into oblivion. It was established through the efforts of a hard-working young vocalist, who has stubbornly kept focus on the path of her own choice. She is no longer an irresistible surprise, but an unmistakable musical talent. One can only be fascinated by a vocalist who mixes the taste of her own generation with a choice of repertoire and musicians to produce an album of such persuasive and elegant pop-perfumed jazz. She has passed the test.

On her third album, Malene has combined a set of personal originals with songs that she just plain likes. Some jazz, some pop. However, there is no doubt that Malene Mortensen's basic approach is that of a jazz vocalist. She dares give her material that essential personal twist - often with surprising results. Her phrasing is blessed with a natural swing, her lyrical interpretations have an easy flow, and her vocal control is supple and virtuosic.

The album includes John Mayer's irresistible City Love and Branford Marsalis' new evergreen Another Day. You will find Laughin at Life, which Billie Holiday made famous, and The Eagles' classic tune Desperado. Several tracks were written by Malene either on

her own or in close collaborations. Some of these are humorous thoughts on the plight of a young woman, others are melancholy love songs. The selection includes a wonderful poem by the 19th century Danish poet, Emil Aarestrup, set to music by Malene.

The international production is Chris Minh Doky's credit. The music was recorded in Denmark; the finishing touches were done in New York. Chris was a natural choice due to his modern and unprejudiced ear for bringing the best out in any vocalist. He has set Malene in a modern sound, adding spice and guest musicians in a mixture that rounds off the pleasurable experience.

The rhythm section behind Malene includes Danish pianist Jacob Christoffersen, who combines authority and interpretive talent to make him the perfect accompanist. Chris Minh Doky plays the impressive bass, and the tasteful Swedish drummer Rasmus Kihlberg completes the backing trio.

The guest list is impressive: Hear American Mike Stern playing a blazing guitar, the extremely popular saxophonist Chris Potter, the Japanese superstar, Toku, and more...

When you buy an album in a record shop, you expect more than from a downloaded product. Feast your eyes on Paul Wilson's graphic design and Claus Peuckert's aesthetic photographs. It is a pleasure to hold a truly well-produced product in your hand - from the inviting cover to the last note of music. That's MALENE.

STUCD 06172, Stunt Records

For more information and interviews please contact:

Peter Littauer (+45) 3333 8720 / direct line (+45) 3318 9092
peter@sundance.dk



STUNT RECORDS

Sundance Music ApS Gothersgade 107 1123 Copenhagen K Denmark
T: +45 3333 8720 F: +45 3333 8730 www.sundance.dk sundance@sundance.dk