## CHRONICLES NICOLAI MUNCH-HANSEN

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33-year old bassist Nicolai Munch-Hansen doesn't divide music in genres. When half of Denmark's leading pop names need a bassist, they call him. So despite his great talent as a jazz bassist, his first recordings as a bandleader came relatively late in his career. He has performed, collaborated and recorded with an impressive list of prominent artists including Beautiful Day, John Tchicai, Caroline Henderson, and vocalist Kira Skov, whose new release LOOK UP AHEAD features Nicolai as bassist and co-producer.

CHRONICLES is Nicolai's second CD in his own name. It exclusively features his original compositions, which are rooted in a classic tradition with a great fondness for solid melodic lines. His working band moves imaginatively in and out of the tunes in Nicolai's elastic material, which pays homage to as well as challenges the rich tradition of jazz. The production places the music in a dusky, wired, lo-fi setting contrasting the simple melodies. Lyrical moods and expressive explosions interchange in a beautiful production showing how wonderfully the present can blend with the tradition in a vital and progressive, vibrant symbiosis. The best in jazz is always on the move.

Mixing freedom and stringency demands a lot of musicians, and Nicolai's band features some of Denmark's finest young talent. Each of them fronts his own trend-setting ensemble, but CHRONICLES offers a unique opportunity to hear them together. They play as a collective, not as a band put together

solely for this project. This group can be heard year round at venues and festivals. Nicolai Munch-Hansen's band is a living organism; a tight unit with space for each individual and a rare ear for interplay.

On bass, Nicolai Munch-Hansen; on tenor saxophone, American Ned Ferm, whose second home is Copenhagen; on trombone Mads Hyhne. The pianist is Søren Kjærgaard, Jakob Bro plays the guitar, and drummer Jakob Høyer completes the line-up. Vocalist Kira Skov is featured on "My Man", written by her especially for this recording.

Nicolai Munch-Hansen and his band will perform three concerts in connection with the album release:

22. SEPTEMBER Atlas i Århus atlasaarhus.dk

24. SEPTEMBER RELEASEKONCERT på Copenhagen JazzHouse. *jazzhouse.dk* 

30. SEPTEMBER Syddansk Musikkonservatorium, Esbjerg. smks.dk

Wedding March / Not A Saint But Beautiful (For Hunter S. Thompson) / The Introduction / Broken Flowers / The Rise Of Sheriff Leroy / Hellig Kvinde / My Man (Feat. Kira Skov) / And The Sun Shined Down Upon Them.

Nicolai Munch-Hansen (b), Jakob Bro (g), Ned Ferm (s), Mads Hyhne (trombone), Jakob Høyer (d), Søren Kjærgaard (p) (#2, 4-8), Kira Skov (voc) (#7).

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