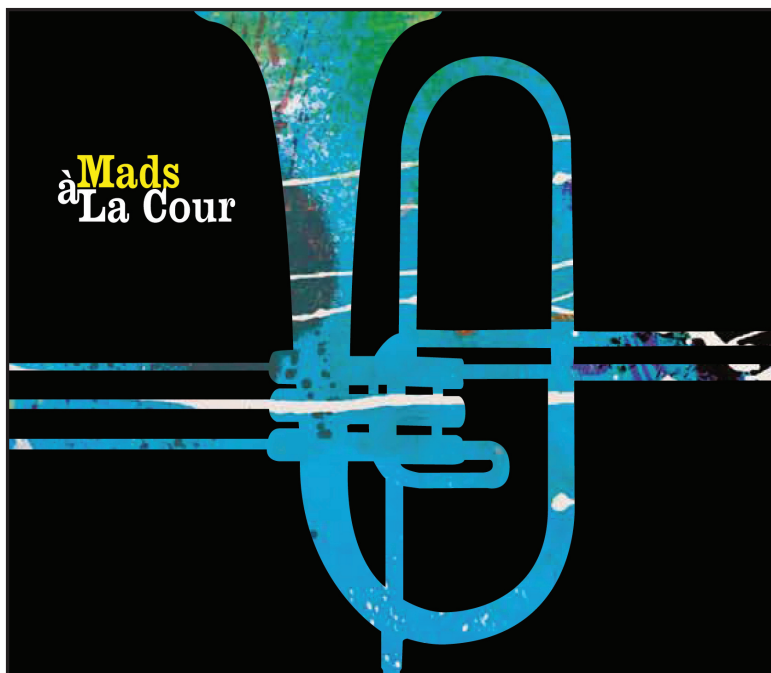


Mads La Cour à La Cour

Stunt Records, STUCD 08012



Perhaps more than other instrumentalists, Danish trumpeters have a certain Danish approach to their instrument: a special tone, a unique melodic flavor, a Scandinavian mood. Who knows where this particular feeling comes from: perhaps from our tradition of singing every morning at school? Or maybe a certain instrumental tradition handed down over decades. Instrument instruction? Think of the following Danish trumpeters: Erik Parker, Jørgen Ryg, Allan Botschinsky, Palle Mikkelborg, Hugh Steinmetz, Finn Otto Hansen, Jens Winther, Henrik Bolberg, Lars Tøgeby, Valdemar Rasmussen, Verner Worck, Per Ringkjøbing and Thomas Fryland. Despite extremely different stylistic preferences, they all play with that special Danish flavor.

The most recent bud on the family tree of trumpeters comes from the Danish island of Fuen, and he first called attention to himself when joining the trumpet group of the Danish Radio Big Band in 2006. His name is Mads la Cour, he was born in 1980, and a graduate from the Conservatory of Fuen, he made his name locally in groups such as Quartz, Tads Ta Tour, Horn Amok, and Anders Mogensen Gifted Youth. In 2007 he was voted Jazz Musician of the Year in Fuen and awarded the Annual Jazz Award from The Danish Broadcasting Corporation's Channel 2. This recording is the outcome of the latter award. It is the last jazz recording to come out of the Danish Broadcasting Corporation's

legendary Studio 3, in which so much Danish jazz has been documented over the past 60 years.

This recording shows that - like so many other young jazz musicians - la Cour's antennae receive from other jazz scenes than in Copenhagen. He is joined by bassist Andreas Lang and (on one track) drummer Kasper Tom Christiansen from Odense (and the band Quartz), and the Norwegian pianist Håvard Wiik, who has established himself recently as an important figure on the Norwegian jazz scene. Berlin is an inspiring creative center for young artists these days, and Mads la Cour has brought in saxophonist Phillipp Gropper from that city. He is known from local Berlin bands Hyperactive Kids and Fusk. The last chair is filled by drummer Kresten Osgood, whose attentive ear and numerous and varied projects should need no further presentation.

On this recording, Mads la Cour is heard exclusively on flugelhorn. He has composed most of the material, which follows the classic tradition of two acoustic horns fronting a rhythm section. However, there are also contributions by Andreas Lang and Phillipp Gropper. The tune cryptically titled Lapa is dedicated to Danish Broadcasting Corporation sound engineer Lars Palsig, who recorded this last jazz session in Studio 3.

**Mads La Cour (flh), Kresten Osgood (dr), Håvard Wiik (p), Philipp Gropper (ts,ss)
Andreas Lang (b), Kasper Tom Christiansen (dr) on "Gartenhaus"**



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