

Die Enttäuschung



Rudi Mahall: bassclarinet, clarinet
Axel Dörner: trumpet
Jan Roder: bass
Michael Griener: drums

The combination of bass clarinet, trumpet, bass and drums has been tried out live by the four Berlin musicians in all imaginable variations for many years. For well over twenty years, Die Enttäuschung has absorbed an incredible amount of jazz history and put it into a living playing process - musical lava, so to speak, formed by a working band that still manages to surprise itself.

This band knows no yesterday and no tomorrow. The Enttäuschung (disappointment) is more Berlin than Berlin itself and, moreover, unrivaled in almost every respect. With collective improvisations beyond all conventions, it unrolls the full potential of its musical imagination and drives up the blood pressure.

The sense of decency is provoked to the extreme by shameless jokes, while in the next moment the expression of holy seriousness enters the faces of the musicians. And yet this band displays everything that makes jazz great. Their music is bursting with energy, everything seems off the cuff, born of the present, and yet inspired to the hilt. In general, unamplified and without technical accessories.

Dörner, Mahall, Roder and Griener, each a chapter of German jazz and improvised music in their own right, draw deeply from history and sweep aside the rules of the art with virtuosic slyness. Or slyly virtuosic, depending on the subject. Already legendary: the new interpretation of all compositions by Thelonious Monk, which Die Enttäuschung recorded together with old master Alexander von Schlippenbach on three CDs (Monks Casino, Intakt 2005).

Unflinching, intense, quirky and enthusiastic, a masterpiece either way.

And the day is saved. (Otmar Klammer, Graz)