

## Zbigniew Wegehaupt Quartet – Tota (2008)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Tota* 2. *For Mingus* 3. *Viga* 4. *Fryc* 5. *Three Roses* 6. *Ana* 7. *From Angel*

Zbigniew Wegehaupt - bass Marcin Masecki - piano Jerzy Małek – trumpet, flugelhorn, cornet  
Ziv Ravitz – drums

Polish bassist / composer Zbigniew Wegehaupt is a late bloomer. Although his phenomenal bass performances have earned him the title of the best and most reliable player on the local scene and a job as sideman in the consistently best ensembles over the years – a status many players would be proud and honored to hold – his career as a leader took a quantum jump only about four years ago with the release of his second solo recording, the eponymous “Zbigniew Wegehaupt Quartet”. His debut album “Sake” was recorded in 1983 – 21 years earlier. Since his ability as a player is already well established, Wegehaupt now concentrates on his composing duties. Since the last album unearthed some of his work, which was sitting in the drawer for a while, this new album is all about presenting his new compositions. It’s a real pleasure for me to admit that he stands up to the challenge with grace and glory. The album includes a set of great tunes, quite different from each other, but all prime examples of contemporary Jazz at its best. They are interesting on both the melodic and the rhythmic planes, with clever structures, which leave space for solos but emphasize the ensemble unity. The quartet, which performs the music, is a perfect vehicle for this music: Wegehaupt on bass, Jerzy Malek on trumpet, Marcin Masecki on piano and the new member, Israeli drummer Ziv Ravitz. Each of these players excels in his area: Malek has a beautiful tone and deep lyricism, Masecki is a phenomenal pianist with outstanding technique (both play on the previous album as well) and Ravitz is completely unique with his complex polyrhythmic approach, which extends way beyond keeping time. Although Wegehaupt is my friend, I’m confident that my assessment of this album is fairly objective and therefore I can easily – and with a clear conscience – recommend it to every Jazz lover around. Give it a try and see that great music is still being made today. Tota(!) satisfaction guaranteed! ---<http://rateyourmusic.com>

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Znany ze współpracy z tuzami sceny jazzowej w Polsce, Zbigniew Wegehaupt zdecydował się na nagranie autorskiej płyty. Jednak pomimo tego, że „Tota” to własna „produkcja” kontrabasisty, muzyk pozostaje w tle towarzyszących mu jazzmanów.

Linia basu Wegehaupta stanowi tło, do tego, co za jego sprawą prezentuje wybrany do nagrania albumu skład. Na płycie usłyszeć możemy zarówno trębacza Jerzego Małka jak i bębniarza Ziva Ravitza. Niekwestionowaną gwiazdą tego nagrania jest zaś znany zarówno ze strictly jazzowych jak i także eksperymentalnych projektów, pianista Marcin Masecki. Na „Tocie” łączy oba style, by w konsekwencji zagrać tak jak życzyłby sobie tego twórca albumu.

„Tota” to jednak nie płyta dla nieusłuchanych miłośników jazzu. Z powodu wielu trudnych improwizacji oraz stylistycznych nawiązań do muzyki (be-bopu) przełomu lat 50. i 60. dla początkującego słuchacza może być po prostu za trudna. Niewątpliwie zadowoli ona jednak wszystkich, którzy doceniają „wytrawny” jazz. ---Kamila Czerniawska, infomusic.pl

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