

Maciej Obara Quartet – Equilibrium (2011)

Wpisany przez bluesever

Czwartek, 17 Kwiecień 2014 15:58 - Zmieniony Niedziela, 27 Kwiecień 2014 20:30

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1. *Cool Madness* 2. *Hidden* 3. *Tale* 4. *Domino* 5. *Cheshire Cat* 6. *Lady With A Weasel* 7. *Transcendental* Maciej Obara - alt sax Dominik Wania - piano Maciej Garbowski - bass Krzysztof Gradziuk – drums

Maciej Obara, altoist, though young has already recorded significant albums. Check for example personnel on his last two discs: "Four" (2010) and "Three" (2010). You will probably find it astonishing with whom he already collaborated with! But it shall be less surprise if you know that few years before he was picked up by Tomasz Stańko for his New Balladyna Project. And since you can put two and two together from the list of those names you will already know that he prefers to walk on free side of jazz. With this album however he goes back to different kind of free: rooted rather in Jimmy Giuffre than in Ornette Coleman tradition. That is due to his partners, musicians with whom he already recorded his first two discs: "Message From Ohayo" (2007) and "I Can Do it" (2009). Krzysztof Gradziuk, a drummer, and Maciej Garbowski, a double-bassist, have made their own great careers specializing in merging cool and free elements in jazz and are universally recognized as one of the most exciting rhythm sections in Poland. They are best known from excellent RGG trio and if you check such albums of this band as stunning "Unfinished Story" (2007) dedicated to legendary cool jazz pianist Mieczysław Kosz, fully improvised "True Story" (2009) or recent "One" (2011), you will understand why Polish audience believe that this is probably the only trio in this country to be seriously compared to famous Marcin Wasilewski Trio. Finally, Dominik Wania completes this quartet, who got behind him valuable projects as sideman with Bronisław Suchanek, Jacek Kochan and Tomek Grochot (check "My Stories"), excellent education and immense talent predisposing him to as significant career as those of other members of this young "dream team" of Polish jazz.

But at the end of a day the most important is of course music. And it may be well described by applying a title of first track on this album which is "Cool Madness". It bursts with inner energy and reminds me of some battle between basic elementals, fire and ice, as impersonated by Obara's alto and Wania's piano, submerged in cool and deep space for improvisation as

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created by Gradziuk's drums and Garbowski's double-bass. Whether they all succeed in finding so much sought equilibrium between those ever conflicting forces is for you to decide...

---Maciej Nowotny, polish-jazz.blogspot.com

Obara i Dominik Wania pierwszy raz spotkali się w składzie Tomasza Stańki i to u jego boku zapoczątkowali swoją muzyczną przyjaźń. Projekt Maciej Obara Quartet to nie tylko podsumowanie współpracy muzycznej z tego okresu, ale przede wszystkim wspólna praca nad wydaniem płyty.

Maciej Obara i Dominik Wania to wielcy indywidualiści, których połączyło pragnienie stworzenia polskiego kwartetu na europejskim poziomie. Niesforny i nie do opanowania Obara znalazł partnera, który z równą mu energią i wirtuozerią potrafi kreować muzyczne historie. W sekcji rytmicznej grają Maciej Grabowski i Krzysztof Gradziuk członkowie dawnego tria Obary.

Maciej Obara Quartet to projekt, na który fani saksofonisty tak długo czekali. Z dystansem podchodzący do elementu harmonicznego, dopiero z Dominikiem Wanią zdecydował się wzbogacić surowe brzmienie klasycznego tria jazzowego i stworzyć projekt ambitny, dojrzały, ale wciąż charakteryzujący się zadziornością i wigorem. Projekt Obary to bardzo wysublimowana energia muzyczna, tym razem osadzona w dojrzałym kontekście harmonicznym Wani. --- merlin.pl

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