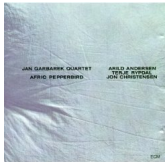


Jan Garbarek – Afric Pepperbird (1970)

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Niedziela, 18 Październik 2009 12:07 - Zmieniony Poniedziałek, 01 Grudzień 2014 11:30

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01. *Skarabee* 02. *Mah-Jong* 03. *Beast of Kommodo* 04. *Blow Away Zone* 05. *MYB* 06. *Concentus* 07. *Afric Pepperbird* 08. *Blupp* Jan Garbarek – tenor saxophone, bass saxophone, clarinet, flute, percussion Terje Rypdal- guitar, bugle Arild Andersen – bass, thumb piano, xylophone Jon Christensen – percussion

Long ago, before he achieved relative stardom with his Nordic, somewhat new-agey recreations of medieval music, Jan Garbarek produced a handful of spectacular, robust albums for ECM where the influence of free jazz, particularly Albert Ayler, was paramount. *Afric Pepperbird* was his first recording for the then fledgling label and it features his quartet at the height of their powers, embellishing his muscular and imaginative compositions with outstanding, individualistic playing. From the eerie keening of the opening "Scarabee," framed by Jon Christensen's pinpoint delicate drums, to the hard-driving "Beast of Kommodo" with the leaders wailing bass sax to Rypdal's manic explorations on *Blow Away Zone*, this is one stellar effort. Add to that three drop-dead gorgeous miniatures by the great and undersung bassist Arild Andersen and the title track, one of the most deliriously infectious melodies you'll ever hear. Together with *Sart*, *Tryptikon*, and *Witchi-Tai-To* (as well as a prior recording on *Flying Dutchman*), this album represents the strongest, most aggressive portion of Garbarek's career, before he succumbed to what became known as the ECM aesthetic. Very highly recommended. ---Brian Olewnick, Rovi

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