

PRESS RELEASE

Matthias Seuffert Quartett



Discover the hot, emotional music full of nuances, that was developed within the transition from Swing to Bebop, freshly interpreted by the Matthias Seuffert Quartett !

The backbone of the varied program is given by fantastic melodies written by American composers such as Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Hoagy Carmichael - in short: the Great American Songbook. Furthermore, you will hear instrumental delicacies out of the quill of jazz greats like Duke Ellington, Benny Carter, Benny Golson, Jelly Roll Morton, Thelonius Monk or Fats Waller. The quartet's fresh sound is enhanced by interesting arrangements (pianoless instrumentation) and first of all by the four musicians' spontaneous "will to swing". The program also includes a number of original compositions by the band members.

Matthias Seuffert (ts, as, cl) is internationally considered one of the most versatile jazz clarinetists and saxophonists. His stylistic range covers early jazz and swing through to bebop. On the international jazz scene, he is a popular and much sought after soloist, ensemble player and arranger. He has performed concerts and recorded CDs together with some of the best jazz players on both sides of the Atlantic ocean. After classical musical education on both clarinet and piano, he won several youth prizes and received the Prix Sidney d'Or in France 1992. During 2002 and 2003 he lived in England to work as saxophone-lecturer at the jazz department of Trinity College of Music, London, and to play on the British jazz scene. He translates influences of such diverse players as Johnny Dodds, Buddy de Franco, Coleman Hawkins, Benny Golson, Benny Carter and Charlie Parker into his own creative, bluesy style.

Three of Germany's most versatile jazz musicians complete the quartet: **Johannes Zink (g)** plays the acoustic and electric guitar convincingly, while **Michael Schöneich (b)** captivates by his solid and immensely mobile playing and his stylistic variability. **Michael Neusser (d)** shows remarkable drive, swing and musical sensibility.

"the most enjoyable live jazz I have ever heard" (Coventry Evening Telegraph, 2002)