

THOMAS WALBUM – PIANIST

BIOGRAPHY

Danish pianist Thomas Walbum (b. 1965) has toured the world extensively (Europe, Japan, Brazil, China, Australia, USA), often in collaborations with musicians from cultures quite different to his own.

After graduating from college in 1985, Thomas and his best friend, went on a one-year trip around Europe in an old van that they had rebuild into a mobile home. It was during this trip Thomas decided to pursue a career as a professional musician. In 1987 he enrolled in a program at The Rhythmic Conservatory in Copenhagen and graduated in 1991. His teachers included Jørgen Emborg, Butch Lacy and Horace Parlan.

In 1993 Thomas moved to Australia for 8 months. He explored the country while playing occasional gigs. He worked for a while as a jam session coordinator at an Adelaide jazz club.

In 1998 he relocated to Boston to complete a Masters of Music Degree in Piano Jazz Performance from the Cooperative Masters of Music in Jazz program at the Boston Conservatory and Berklee College of Music. He studied with Ray Santisi, the classical pianist Janice Weber, as well as the celebrated pianist Joanne Brackeen. During his three years in Boston he also played gigs and taught at various music schools in the Boston area.

Upon his return back to Denmark he continued playing with various groups, got involved with recording projects, at the same time as keeping a busy teaching schedule. He is presently teaching at Helsingør MGK (a conservatory prep course).

In 2001 he recorded his debut CD 'Thomas Walbum Trio -Boston', with drummer Joe Hunt, a former member of the Bill Evans Trio (Stan Getz, Jim Hall, Barry Harris) and bassist John Lockwood (The Fringe, Pat Metheny, Freddie Hubbard, Dizzy Gillespie and Joe Henderson, among others).

In 2009 he recorded with the Thomas Walbum Trio with Kazufumi Tsuchimura (b) and Shin-ichiro Kamoto (d). The album is entitled 'Tales from the Blue' and contains seven original compositions as well as three standards. Later this year Thomas toured Brazil with the Grammy nominated Brazilian group 'Sinequanon'.

In 2010 the 'Walbum/Maintz Brazilian Quintet', featuring three Brazilian musicians, went on a Brazilian tour and recorded an album consisting of all original material. The album will be released in the summer of 2012.

Thomas maintains an active touring schedule, from local jazz clubs in Copenhagen to clubs and jazz festivals around the globe. During the last few years Thomas has toured Japan four times with his Japanese Trio and with the Pekka Pyykkänen Quartet. He has toured Brazil with the groups Sinequanon, Walbum/Maintz Quintet and with the Walbum/Campagnol with Sizão Machado Group

CD'S AS A LEADER

Walbum/Maintz Brazilian Quintet (expected release August 2012)
Thomas Walbum Trio 'Tales From the Blue' (Gateway 2010)
Thomas Walbum Trio 'Boston' (Music Mecca 2002)

CD's AS A SIDEMAN

The Danish Jazz Concept – THAT'S ALL (2009)
Charlotte Thorsen – SEKUND (2008)
Jeanett Debb – Jeanett Debb synger danske vuggeviser (2005)
Bjarne Druedal – SOMMERNATTEN BØLGER (2004)
Chris Thomas King – BLUES FROM DA' HOOD (1995)
Arlyson Loureiro – NOITES DO RIO ((1992)
Kopenhagen – KOPENHAGEN
Johnny - TAK FOR KAFFE (1989)

DVD'S

Lars Bom – LØB (2006) – sport instruction DVD. Thomas Walbum composed and recorded the soundtrack

BOOKS

Niels Viggo Bentzon – ROSKILDE SUITE Eight Frozen Improvisations For Piano -Tonya Lemoh and Thomas Walbum transcribed an improvised concert, which is now available as a book at WILHELM HANSEN.