

ESPEN BERG TRIO

Espen Berg, piano and compositions // Bárður Reinert Poulsen, bass // Simon Albertsen, drums

Espen Berg Trio is an award-winning piano trio from Norway. Outselling concert halls all over the world, the trio referred to as *one of the best trios in existence today* by Jazz Journal has already made a mark outside their home country. Their music might be reminiscent of that of Brad Mehldau, Keith Jarrett, Shai Maestro or Tigran Hamasyan, but above all it's a personal addition to the legacy of the piano trio and to the evolution of the Nordic jazzscene, featuring a compelling combination of strong melodies and complex rhythmic, immense technical abilities and a highly engaging interplay.

«Big in Japan but yet to really dominate Europe, EBT are one of the better piano-led trios to pick up that heavy baton relinquished by the late Esbjörn Svensson.» — Jazz Journal

Espen Berg Trio has been touring in Europe and Japan frequently, releasing four albums on the Japanese label Blue Gleam. In 2019, the trio made a solid impression on the jazz industry gathered at jazzahead! in Bremen, resulting in a tour in India and concerts at highly profiled European venues, like Ronnie Scotts in London. Their third album, *Free to Play*, was listed in Downbeat as one of the best releases in 2019, and as of spring 2024, EBT's fifth album is in the making.

Espen Berg was declared *a true master of the piano* by All About Jazz when releasing his debut album *Noctilucent*, in 2012. His third album *The Trondheim Concert* (2022), all improvised and live-recorded, was featured in many of Europe's leading jazz magazines, and described as *one of the finest improvised solo piano performances from the last decade or so* by UK Vibe. Espen was awarded Norway's largest jazz scholarship at Molde Int'l Jazz Festival in 2016, resulting in a commissioned work for the Trondheim Jazz Orchestra. He is also known for his collaboration with Silje Nergaard, Hildegunn Øiseth Quartet, A Tonic For The Troops, Seamus Blake, Daniel Herskedal, Marius Neset, among many others. In 2023 he was appointed to official Steinway Artist and premiered his latest commissioned work, *Water Fabric*, which was written for Trondheim Jazz Festival, Oslo Jazz Festival and Maijazz in Stavanger.

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