



Arthur Possing Quartet

Natural Flow

Out on 27th August 2021
by Double Moon Records/
Challenge Records

1. Flow 6:42
2. Sentietincelle 6:40
3. One Move Further 5:01
4. Terminus 5:43
5. New Directions 3:31
6. Walk Around Etangs 5:10
7. A Journey to... 1:43
8. Golden Fields 6:15
9. Le Roi Arthur 6:32
10. Memory 7:43
11. Elf 4:08
12. Straight Forward 6:57

Total time 66:10

Arthur Possing: piano
Pierre-Cocq-Amann: tenor and soprano saxophones, C-Melody saxophone, effects
Sebastian "Schlapbe" Flach: double bass, effects
Niels Engel: drums

Guest:
Thomas Mayade: trumpet, flugelhorn on 4, 5, 10 and 12

Recorded from 16th to 18th October 2020 by Oli Jacobs at Real World Studios, Box (UK)
Assistant engineer: Ioan Hazell
Mixed by Jean-Pascal Boffo at Studio Amper, Clouange (FR)
Mastered by Vincent de Bast at Sonar Studios, Pecq (BE)

All compositions by Arthur Possing except:
2,9, and 11 by Pierre Cocq-Amann
7 by Sebastian "Schlapbe" Flach

"Memory" is dedicated to my brother Ferdinand

Pierre Cocq-Amann plays GB Saxophones
Niels Engel plays Kumu Drums
The intro of Golden Fields was created with using these great pedals: RedPanda Tensor,
montreal assembly 856 zellersasn, WayHue Supa-Puss, Space Titan II and Strymon
Volante

Cover photograph by Raymond Clement
Band photograph by Eric Engel
Design by Natasja Wallenburg
Project coordination by Boudewijn Hagemans

Produced by Volker Dueck and Arthur Possing

Arthur Possing Quartet Natural Flow

“Natural Flow” is the name of the second album by Luxembourgian pianist Arthur Possing with his quartet, and the album title of course also defines the sound ideal of the band. It has existed since 2013, so it had enough time to develop the natural flow that characterizes the eleven songs on the successor to “Four Years”. Together with his compatriot Niels Engel on drums, the German bassist Sebastian Flach and the French saxophonist Pierre Cocq-Amann, Possing plays a warm modern jazz on “Natural Flow”, which is sophisticated, versatile and exciting. The four got to know each other in the Luxembourg jazz scene, and the French trumpeter and flugelhorn player Thomas Mayade is also a guest on four songs. “Together, we embody exactly the sound I imagined,” Possing said. “As a pianist, the standard formation is the trio, but I always wanted a saxophone to play the melodies. I realized when composing that it would be better if another instrument played the melodies.”

Possing cannot praise his partner in melody leadership and structure enough. “Pierre can play a note and it touches you directly,” according to the pianist. “It's not about the number of notes, but about the way he plays a note. Whether on the soprano or the tenor, he has an attitude of how he presents emotions that is unique. I'm very glad I have him playing alongside me.”

Possing also found just the right companion for the position on the bass. “It's the round sound of Sebastian,” the pianist stated enthusiastically. “When he plays double bass, you immediately feel the fullness of his sound. He is very focused on the sound he plays and on the whole band at the same time. In addition, he plays very melodically. He gives the whole band a feeling of security, and that's actually the most important thing.”

And then there's the man on the drums. “Niels plays drums as I imagine you play drums,” Possing observed. “He is very versatile, because he is active in many different projects, like all the musicians in the band, and is at home in many different genres. He always finds the right grooves for the respective pieces and plays very freely and carefree. Sometimes he makes small interjections that deviate from the actual groove and are very interesting and inspiring. They often take the piece in a new direction.”

Thomas Mayade adds an extra dimension to the sound of the band in four pieces. “I met Thomas in Brussels, but he actually comes from France,” Possing said. “I had composed a few pieces, in which I wanted to have a trumpet or a flugelhorn playing with the band and I immediately thought of him. He combines traditional with more modern ways of playing and that fits exactly.”

The eleven songs were mainly composed by the band leader, while some songs were also composed by other band members, including the most intense, “Le Roi Arthur”, by Cocq-Amann. “Last year he called me and told me that he composed a

song for me; that was 'Le Roi Arthur'," Possing remembered. "The piece not only reflects my musical world, but also fits perfectly into the quartet. Of course, it also demonstrates his background and reminds you of John Coltrane without being a pale copy of his playing. It is in 7/4 time and consequently has a more modern approach that was not common at the time. At the same time, it is mixed with this energy."

Relaxed rhythmic complexity distinguishes "One Move Further". "One Move Further" is based on a rhythmic idea that Sebastian and I play together," the pianist explained. "A melodic idea develops from this, which is anticipated by the rhythm – hence the title."

The enchanting "Walk Around Etangs" shows another side of the band. "Walk Around Etangs' refers to my time in Brussels, where I studied," Possing explained. "Etangs' is the French word for ponds, and I often went for walks along the ponds in my district."

"Golden Fields" is also among the particularly impressive songs. "That was one of the first pieces I composed for the album," Possing remembers. "The influence of Brad Mehldau can be heard quite clearly there. I composed the piece after I saw a concert by him with his trio in Luxembourg. He embodies an aesthetic that is very close to me and that I find very important – without wanting to compare myself to him now."



Arthur Possing-Biography



Arthur Possing is a young Luxembourgish pianist. Born in 1996, he grew up in a family, where music takes an important role and was omnipresent at home. He started classical percussion at the age of 6 and classical piano at the age of 10, later in the class of well-known pianist Jean Muller. In 2009, he began jazz piano with Marc Mangen and in 2011, vibraphone with Guy Cabay. In 2016, after finishing secondary school, he began further studies in jazz piano at the Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles with Eric Legnini.

The Arthur Possing Quartet was formed in 2013. The members of the group met in highschool (music section) and soon they started to play together regularly. In 2017, the musicians are originally from Germany, France and Luxembourg and have studied at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels, at the Centre des Musiques Didier Lockwood near Paris, and at the Musikhochschule Mannheim. Their repertoire consists of own compositions, as well as tunes of jazzmen they really appreciate.

The quartet plays modern jazz, with influences from all genres, without forgetting the tradition.

In 2017, the quartet recorded its first album, entitled 'Four Years' which has been released in March 2018 on the Belgian label Hypnote Records. It was well acclaimed by the audience and the press and won "Hit" by Couleurs Jazz in France.

'Natural Flow' is Arthur Possing Quartet's second album. In this new album, as a continuity from their debut release entitled 'Four Years', the band explores plenty of innovative and researched compositions and sounds, giving it its unique characteristics.

For this album, the quartet features the French trumpeter **Thomas Mayade** (Brussels Jazz Orchestra, David Linx, Electro Deluxe,...), who adds a special and unique colour to the band.

The band recorded the album in Peter Gabriel's famous **Real World Studios** in Box (UK), which are some of the best sounding and most acclaimed studios in the world. They house an array of the finest audio equipment ever made.

The album will be officially out on **27th August 2021**, under Double Moon Records/Challenge Records.

Quotes:

*"There is plenty of strong und subtle playing, with *Passing* evincing both lyrical sensitivity and, when needed, a potent yet finely judged sense of rhythmic drive.
(...)*

All fine stuff from a quartet, which should go far"

Michael Tucker, Jazz Journal (UK)

"ses propres compositions (...) sont puissantes. La musique y est fluide, la complicité totale entre les quatres musiciens. (...)

Vraiment beaucoup de bon dans cet album qui fait souvent penser à Brad Mehldau, et c'est une fameuse référence."

Jean-Claude Vantroyen, Le Soir (BE)

"Gut hörbar, mit starken Melodien"

Daniel Conrad, Luxemburger Wort (LU)

Media:

Official Video
(at Real World Studios)

Live at Philharmonie Luxembourg

Live at Eurojazz Festival (MEX)

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