

# PETER ASPLUND QUARTET

*Peter Asplund trumpet / flugelhorn, Jacob Karlzon piano, Hans Andersson bass, Johan Löfcrantz Ramsay drums*



Peter Asplund Quartet "Lochiel's Warning" (Prophone, PCD 071, 2004)

*Peter Asplund Quartet is a dynamic and closely united group who represent some of the strongest voices to be found on the Scandinavian jazz scene today. With honest expressions, with respect for the tradition tastefully combined with a natural will of pioneering and with genuine charisma Peter Asplund Quartet manage to reach every single one in the audience.*

*They mainly play Peter Asplund's compositions but also standard repertoire in new and exciting arrangements. The spur of the moment is essential within a certain structure, and the communication between the four musicians is unique.*

**The trademark** of the quartet is the consistent nerve going through the clear fusion between the tradition and the new music, between the American jazz and the Nordic jazz; between red intense heat and blue slow sadness. Asplund, Andersson, Karlzon and Löfcrantz Ramsey are skilful musicians. Their knowledge and their experiences combined with an immediate creative spirit does not only result in performances of high quality, but also in honest expressions, true feelings and a comfortable communication with those that listen. They make their music accessible for a wide audience without having to alter their true artistic ambitions.

## **Prestigious awards**

When record releases of 2004 were summarized, the album "Lochiel's Warning" (Prophone, PCD 071) by Peter Asplund Quartet was picked by many critics as the best jazz album of the year. Sweden's main daily newspaper, Dagens Nyheter (DN), wrote that the album is "an instant classic" and one of the best Swedish jazz albums of all times. In addition to all the great reviews, Asplund was recently received two very prestigious awards; "Manifestpriset" is an alternative Grammy, awarded by the Swedish Organisation for Independent Record labels (SOM). In the definition of the award SOM wrote that "*Lochiel's Warning is a sparkling piece of collective jazz craftsmanship based on strong original material and well chosen standards beyond all clichés. The trumpeter Peter Asplund shows an extraordinary relationship with the inner soul of music, and plays with an exquisite technique and true passion.*" "Gyllene Skivan" is awarded by the world's oldest jazz magazine, Orkester Journalen, and the winner is chosen by the magazine's readers and by a jury. "Gyllene Skivan" was 2005 given out for the fiftieth time and has earlier been given to Swedish jazz giants such as Lars Gullin, Arne Domnérus, Jan Johansson, Bernt Rosengren, Börje Fredriksson, Jan Lundgren and Esbjörn Svensson Trio. The readers and the jury totally agreed when the award was given to Peter Asplund Quartet.

## **Teaching at music universities**

On top of concerts at clubs and festivals the members of Peter Asplund Quartet also do clinics and workshops. They enjoy meeting a young audience not only to safeguard the Afro-American jazz tradition, but also to introduce the modern jazz and show the possibilities of personal expressions in the improvisational music.

Parallel to their present careers as musicians the quartet members also teach at music universities. Peter Asplund is responsible for the trumpet education (Afro-American programme) at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm where Johan Löfcrantz Ramsey also teach. Hans Andersson used to teach at the Rhythmic Music Conservatory in Copenhagen and is now a teacher at the Malmö Academy of Music, and Jacob Karlzon regularly do clinics at various music academies.

**VOICES OF THE PRESS: Peter Asplund Quartet "Lochiel´s warning"**

*"A STRONG IMPRINT IN SWEDISH JAZZ"* (Sven Malm, Svenska Dagbladet)

*"IN A SENTIMENTAL MOOD ALONE IS WORTH THE PRICE OF THE CD"*  
(Björn G. Stenberg, Uppsala Nya Tidning)

*"MAJESTIC TRUMPET"* (Orkesterjournalen)

*"THIS IS A CD TO RETURN TO WHEN THE TIME COMES TO PRESENT THE SWEDISH GRAMMIS AWARDS"* (Göran Olson, Gefle dagblad)

*"PETER ASPLUND IS WITHOUT DOUBT ONE OF THIS COUNTRY'S LEADING TRUMPET PLAYERS OF JAZZ"* (Göran Sjögren, Enköpingsposten)

*"PETER ASPLUND IS ON HIS WAY TO SOMETHING GREAT"* (Torsten Carlsson, LT)

*"TRUMPETER PETER ASPLUND NOW BELONGS TO ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT SOLOISTS IN SWEDISH JAZZ. THAT FACT IS CONFIRMED BY THIS NEWLY RELEASED CD".*  
(Stig Jonasson, Smålandsposten)

*"THIS IS NOTHING LESS THAN A STRONG, RELEVANT RECONNECTION WITH THE SUBLIME, DRAMATIC ELEMENTS OF MILES DAVIS' AND GIL EVANS' "SKETCHES OF SPAIN" ..."*  
(Tobias Brandt, LAMUSIK)

*"A VERITABLE CLASSIC"* (Johannes Cornell, Dagens Nyheter)



Jacob Karlzon, piano, Hans Andersson, bass, Johan Löfcrantz Ramsey, trummor, Peter Asplund, trumpet

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**Information and bookings:**

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### **Peter Asplund, trumpet/flügelhorn**

After three CD's under his own name: "Open Mind" (Dragon DRCD 281) "Melos" (Sittel SITCD 9260) and "Lochiel's Warning" (Prophone PCD 071) all which are comprised of his own material, Peter has developed a very personal approach to both his energy-filled trumpet playing and his melodic compositions. He has been described as "a fantastic musician who always plays straight from the heart." He has undertaken many long tours involving clubs, concert halls and festivals in Sweden, as well as playing in U.S.A., Canada, England, Germany, Australia, Poland, Switzerland, former Yugoslavia, and naturally, the rest of Scandinavia. Peter can be heard playing not only with his own group "Melos" but also with such big bands as: Tolvan Big Band, Stockholm Jazz Orchestra, Hector Bingert's Latin Lover Big Band and Bosse Broberg's Nogenja. He often appears as jazz soloist behind many popular Swedish artists both on stage and in the recording studios, especially with the Swedish jazz/pop/soul group Bo Kaspers Orkester, much praised by critics and public alike. Well worth noting is Peter Asplund's homage to Louis Armstrong production, Satch As Such (Sittel SITCD 9268) where many compositions closely associated with Armstrong have been arranged in an up-to-date manner for trumpet soloist and big band. Peter is also the artistic leader of the Blue House Jazz Orchestra, a praised big band with some of the best jazz musicians in Sweden. The orchestra is based at the Stockholm concert hall but perform all over the world representing Sweden. See biography, discography, press, calendar etc. at [www.peterasplund.com](http://www.peterasplund.com).

### **Johan Löfcrantz, drums**

Johan Löfcrantz, born in 1969, has grown up in a music-loving environment. When entering the upper secondary school Johan got the chance to study music and it was during that time that he came into serious contact with jazz music. As early as 1988 he was awarded a scholarship from the late pianist Thore Swanerud's Foundation. From 1988-1993 he continued his studies at the Royal College of Music, his teacher being the excellent drummer Pétur 'Island' Östlund. During that period he also started freelancing and in that way he came into contact with many artists, several of them being internationally renowned. Johan has performed with most of the great Swedish musicians and artists such as Arne Domnérus, Putte Wickman, Monica Zetterlund, Niklas Strömstedt, Richard Wolff, Svante Thuresson and Viktoria Tolstoy. He has also appeared with the Swedish Radio Jazz Group and the Stockholm Jazz Orchestra. He has been working with international musicians and artists too, such as Toots Thielemans, Clark Terry, Stevie Wonder, Maria Schneider, Dick Oatts, Kenny Werner and the N.D.R. Big Band. It should be added that he nowadays teaches at the Royal College of Music. See biography, discography, press, calendar etc. at [www.lofcrantz.com](http://www.lofcrantz.com).

### **Jacob Karlzon, piano**

Jacob Karlzon was born in Jönköping, Sweden in 1970 and has established himself as one of Sweden's most personal and skilful pianists. He has a highly-developed touch and a technique that is impressive, and he has been favourably compared to pianists such as Keith Jarrett, Bill Evans and Jan Johansson. After completing studies at the Malmö College of music, he was soon engaged in a large variety of groups and projects. He has worked with such well known names as Billy Cobham, Bob Berg, Kenny Wheeler, Tim Hagans, Jeff Ballard, Norma Winstone, Viktoria Tolstoy, Cæcilie Norby, Nils Landgren, Silje Nergaard, Rigmor Gustafsson, Lina Nyberg, Trine-Lise Vaering, Anders Bergcrantz, Fredrik Lundin, Cennet Jönsson, Tomas Franck, Putte Wickman a.o. Jacob Karlzon is also a regular member of Tolvan Big Band. "Pianist Jacob Karlzon, who visited Australia as a member of the Tolvan Big Band, is quite simply superb. His solos tell a story while incorporating surprising harmonic devices; his left hand accompaniment moves between the forcefulness of a McCoy Tyner to the subtlety of a Bill Evans. Karlzon may well be one of the finest emerging jazz pianists anywhere in the world." (Garry Lee, *Australian daily paper*) See biography, discography, press, calendar etc. at [www.jacobkarlzon.com](http://www.jacobkarlzon.com)

### **Hans Andersson, bass**

Hans Andersson is an acoustic bass player from Malmö who has studied at Malmö Academy of Music and Berklee College of Music in Boston. Has for some twenty years worked as a jazz musician and played with amongst others Peter Asplund Quartet, Viktoria Tolstoy, Gösta Rundqvist Trio, Rigmor Gustafsson, Flemming Agerskov Face To Face (with Julian Argüelles and Martin France a.o.), Bosse Broberg's Nogenja, Lindha Svantesson (Jazz In Sweden 2001), Kim Kristensen's Ildvæverne (which in 1993 participated in the JazzPar tour), Anders Bergcrantz, Jakob Davidsen CrossOver Ensemble, Rich Perry with Jan Lundgren Trio, Anders Widmark Trio, Peter Asplund and his Orchestra, Maggi Olin Group, Melos, The Baker Boys with Vincent Herring, Mulle Holmqvist's Parafra, Ane Ramløse Sextet, Kim Parker with Håkan Rydin Trio, Beijbom-Kroner Big Band, Tommy Berndtsson Quartet (in 1991 the winner of International Jazz Federation's jazz competition in Leverkusen) and the more recently formed bands Double Standards and Ola Hedén Trio. Has also played with amongst others Jacob Karlzon Big5, Mark Murphy, Svante Thuresson, Maffy Falay, Jens Winther, Stockholm Jazz Orchestra feat. Bob Mintzer, Ilhan Ersahin, Ingrid Jensen and Joey Calderazzo. Wrote for and played in SAMI's COMP '89 and has with his own band Wet Paint performed at clubs, festivals and radio broadcasts. "...I have never like here been captured by his elastic soft, firm timbre and ability to find both the fundamental and the unexpected notes. The bassists way of making the pauses, the space, to a part of his flow is another considerably impressive ability." (*Sydsvenskan*) See biography, discography, press, calendar etc. at [www.hansandersson.com](http://www.hansandersson.com).