

DownBeat [Magazine](#) on Mia Dyberg Trio Ticket! / Clean Feed 2018



Bebop inspired beat authors to invest their writing with more rhythm, soul, spontaneity and unpredictability. Now, the Mia Dyberg Trio, a collection of Danish and Norwegian musicians with strong connections to Berlin's improvised music scene, brings things back around by claiming the influence of beat writer William S. Burroughs. In addition to working through the varied dimensions of his oeuvre, Burroughs was a vivid performer, a serpentine narrator, a bone-dry comic and an unsparing truth-teller. The trio's music, whether composed by alto saxophonist Dyberg and bassist Asger Thomsen or collectively improvised, matches its inspiration with impact and clearly has the edge when it comes to lucidity.

Thomsen has a strong instinct for structure, which ensures direction and cohesiveness, even during the music's most free-flowing moments. The saxophonist's adroit phrasing and tonal flexibility express a variety of moods and textures quite clearly, and her melodic imagination ensures that each gesture lands with emotion. "Party Ist Vorbei" captures the reflective melancholy one might experience when a long evening's fun winds down; "Claws Out" stretches and twists with feline elasticity. Ultimately, it matters less that one can spot the literary influence here than the music succeeding on its own merits. With its strong writing, responsive interaction and expressive playing, the trio delivers. —Bill Meyer

Mia Dyberg - Alto Sax

Asger Thomsen - Double bass

Dag Magnus Narvesen - Drums

The trio performed at [12points Festival](#) 2018: Putting labels on music is often hard to do. Putting musicians on labels, however says quite a lot more. Danish alto saxophonist Mia Dyberg released her debut album, Ticket! on the prestigious Portuguese label, [Clean Feed](#), whose roster includes Tony Malaby, Evan Parker and other luminaries. This is energetic free jazz of the highest calibre, in the fertile format of the 'chordless saxophone trio', underpinned by a tight rhythm section of Narvesen & Thomsen who aren't afraid to groove, and groove hard. While recording their debut, Dyberg chose a selection of Burroughs' material; radio excerpts & voice recordings, as a jumping off point for improvisation informed directly by these recordings. Focusing on textures, timbre, and group-sound, the results are self evident. In this freewheeling music, it's clear that while Dyberg nods affirmatively to the past, she is staring steadfastly at the future. Gripping stuff

For reviews and live-videos please visit: www.miadybergtrio.com

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