

November 2, 2024



Lining Up!

CD med Claire Martin, Mark Nightingale og Don Menza

Sandvika Storbands CD "Lining Up!" kom ut i april 1999. Solister er Claire Martin sang, Mark Nightingale trombone og Don Menza tenorsax. Mark Nightingale er også komponist og arrangør for flere av CDens spor. Don Menza er også godt representert som komponist og har produsert CDen.

Pressen sier:

PULS 22/4 1999 (Tor Hammerø): "Sandvika Storband er utvilsomt kongeriketets beste storband. At ensemblet også holder høy klasse sett med internasjonale øyne og hørt med internasjonale ører, er deres ferske CD et utmerket bevis på.

Sandvika Storband med venner leverer denne gangen fra seg et fonogram trygt i den hardtvingende storbandtradisjonen. Dette swinger og groover fra start til mål. Bandet har ikke som ambisjon å flytte noen musikalske grenser - de vil bare skape musikk som generer glede og hygge. Om de har greid det? Noe så voldsomt!"

AFTENPOSTEN 24/4 1999 (Stein Kagge): "Enda en gang har Sandvika Storband hentet inn dyktige solister og skapt et så avgjort høreverdig album Don Menza, 63, komponist, arrangør og tenorsaksofonist med fartstid hos blant andre Maynard Ferguson, Stan Kenton, Buddy Rich, Elvin Jones og Louie Bellson, avgir en solid tillitserklæring til Sandvika Storband når han nå stiller som produsent for orkestrets ferske CD.

Karl Strømmes solo i «Faviana» er heller ikke å forakte. Trompetprisen gir vi allikevel til orkestrets Benjamin Marius Haltli, glitrende på så vel trompet som flygelhorn. En ung musiker norsk jazz vil få stor glede av i årene fremover, i storbandsammenheng som i mindre formater."

Les [Jack Bowers omtale](http://www.allaboutjazz.com/) på <http://www.allaboutjazz.com/> eller en [lokal kopi](#)

og fra [Cadence](#) "... When it comes to big bands, Sandvika spells excellence; add Menza, Nightingale and Martin and that spells pure-blooded excitement."

Trond Erikson: musikkskribent i Smaalenene Medier as: "[Fløyelsmykt fett og rått](#)Bare ett ord er godt nok: Knallbra!"

1. S'WONDERFUL 5:03

(George & Ira Gershwin arr. Mark Nightingale)

Solo: Mark Nightingale - trb

2. COME TOGETHER 4:20

(Lennon/McCartney, arr. Örjan Fahlström)

Commissioned by NDR Bigband

Solos: Claire Martin - voc, shaker, Frode Kjekstad - g, Helge Lien - p

3. FAVIANA 9:15

(Don Menza)

Solos: Karl Strømme - trp, Birger Carlsen - tr, Helge Lien - p

4. LINING UP! 7:13

(Don Menza)

Solos: Torstein Ellingsen - dr, Don Menza - ts, Frode Kjekstad - g

5. DAYS OF WINE AND ROSES 7:34

(Henry Mancini, arr. Maria Schneider)

Commissioned by Norbotten Bigband

Solos: Mark Nightingale - trb, Marius Haltli - trp

6. ANGEL EYES 7:34

(Earl Brent & Matt Dennis, arr. Don Menza)

Solos: Claire Martin - voc, Don Menza - ts

7. BROADBOTTOM 5:07

(Don Menza)

Solo: Bjørn Barlo - ts

8. IN THE CLEAR 7:31

(Mark Nightingale)

Solos: Bjørn Barlo - ts, Marius Haltli - trp, Mark Nightingale - trb

9. IF RIGHT WAS WRONG 3:59

(Örjan Fahlström)

Solo: Don Menza - ts

10. ON THE STREET WHERE YOU LIVE 5:04

(Lerner & Lowe, arr. Mark Nightingale)

Solos: Claire Martin - voc, Mark Nightingale - trb



Don Menza, producer, tenor sax on track 4, 6, 9
 Birger Carlsen, musical director, trombone on track 3
 Claire Martin, vocal on track 2, 6, 10
 Mark Nughtingale, Trombone on track 1, 5, 8, 10
 Kåre Løchsen, lead alto sax, soprano sax, flute
 Marius Revold, alto sax, soprano sax, clarinet
 Bjørn Barlo, tenor sax, clarinet, flute
 Hallvard Nyruud, tenor sax, flute



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(ssb)

Jon Bakkelund, baritone sax, bass clarinet
Frank Bordahl, lead trumpet, flugelhorn
Birgit Kjuus, trumpet, flugelhorn
Karl Strømme, trumpet, flugelhorn
Marius Haltli, trumpet, flugelhorn
Tor Pundsnes, trombone
Audun Øksendal, trombone
Bjørn Tveøy, trombone
Øistein Vethe, bass trombone
Frode Kjekstad, guitar
Helge Lien, piano
Helge Ellingsen, bass
Torstein Ellingsen, drums

Produced by Don Menza
Co-produced by Birger Carlsen
Project Coordinators - Frank Brodahl and Torstein Ellingsen
Recorded in February 1999 at Studio 20, NRK, Oslo
Recording Engineers - Arne Kristian Dypvik and Terje Hellem
Mixing Engineer - Jan Erik Tørmoen
Mastered at Masterhuset by Espen Berg
Photos by CF Wesenberg
Design by Jeanette Jansen
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SANDVIKA STORBAND

Lining Up! (SSCD)

By Jack Bowers

This is the second superlative recording we've heard in the last two months by Norway's world-class Sandvika Storband (the other, *Greenhouse - Live at Smuget*, was reviewed in May). This time around, the band has some help (not that it needs any) from three acclaimed guest artists, two from the UK (trombonist/composer Mark Nightingale, vocalist Claire Martin), the other from the US (tenor saxophonist/composer Don Menza). Nightingale unleashes his awesome Carl Fontana-like chops on his mid-tempo charmer, "In the Clear," his inventive arrangement of the Gershwins' "S'Wonderful" and Maria Schneider's frisky treatment of Henry Mancini's "Days of Wine and Roses." Martin, whose press notices have been consistently glowing, is heard on Lennon/McCartney's "Come Together," Matt Dennis/Earl Brent's "Angel Eyes" and Lerner and Loewe's "On the Street Where You Live" (and sounds far more engaged and at ease on the last two, with Nightingale's trombone dashing arm-in-arm with her down "The Street".) Having read several of those reviews of Martin's work, I frankly expected more from her, but others may disagree. In fairness, Nightingale's Nelson Riddle-inspired version of "The Street Where You Live" doesn't give her much room to maneuver, and she's suitably expressive on Menza's more sedate arrangement of "Angel Eyes." Menza wrote the seductive bossa "Faviana," the swaying shuffle "Broadbottom" and the showy, fast-paced "Lining Up!" and solos on the latter as well as on "Angel Eyes" and Örjan Fahlström's hard-edged flag-waver, "If Right Was Wrong." Lest one should forget what a wonderful improviser Menza can be, here are three emphatic reminders. Sandvika's cadre of impressive soloists has its chance to shine on "Faviana" (Karl Strømme, trumpet; Birger Carlsen, trombone), "Lining Up!" (Torstein Ellingsen, drums; Frode Kjekstad, guitar); "Wine and Roses" (Marius Haltli, trumpet); "Broadbottom" (Biørn Barlo, tenor sax) and "In the Clear" (Barlo, Haltli). The ensemble is typically sharp and sure-footed, the rhythm section nimble and supportive. Another sparkling session from Sandvika.

Track listing: S'Wonderful; Come Together; Faviana; Lining Up!; Days of Wine and Roses; Angel Eyes; Broadbottom; In the Clear; If Right Was Wrong; On the Street Where You Live (62:52).

Personnel: Birger Carlsen, trombone, music director; Frank Brodahl, Birgit Kjuus, Marius Haltli, Karl Strømme, trumpet, flugelhorn; Kåre Løchsen, alto, soprano sax, flute; Marius Revold, alto, soprano sax, clarinet; Hallvard Nyrud, tenor sax, flute; Biørn Barlo, tenor sax, clarinet, flute; Jon Bakkeland, baritone sax, bass clarinet; Tor Pundsnes, Bjørn Tveøy, Audun Øksendal, trombone; Øistein Vethe, bass trombone; Helge Lien, piano; Frode Kjekstad, guitar; Helge Ellingsen, bass; Torstein Ellingsen, drums. Special guests Mark Nightingale, trombone (1, 5, 8, 10); Claire Martin, vocals (2, 6, 10); Don Menza, tenor sax.

Contact: Kåre Løchsen



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CADENCE. The review of jazz & blues: Creative improvised music. October 1999

SANDVIKA STORBAND,

LINING UP!,

2) SANDVIKA STORBAND SSCD 005.

S'Wonderful / Come Together / Faviana / Lining Up! / Days of Wine and Roses / Angel Eyes / Broadbottom / In the Clear / If Right Was Wrong / On the Street Where You Live. 62:52.

Don Menza, prod, ts; Birger Carlsen, dir, tbn; Frank Brodahl, Karl Strømme, Birgit Kjuus, Marius Haltli, tpt, flgh; Kåre Løchsen, as, ss, flt; Marius Revold, as, ss, cl; Hallvard Nyrud, ts, flt; Biørn Barlo, ts, cl, flt; Jon Bakkelund, bars,bcl; Tor Pundsnes, Bjørn Tveøy, Audun Øksendal,trombone; ØisteinVethe,btbn; Helge Lien, p; Helge Ellingsen, b; Torstein Ellingsen, d; Mark Nightingale, tbn (1, 5, 8, 10); Claire Martin, vcl (2, 6, 10). Oslo, Norway, Feb. 1999.

Although **(2)** is named for one of producer/tenor saxophonist Don Menza's fleet-footed compositions, the opening selection accurately sums up what's inside this bounteous package from Norway's seasoned Sandvika Storband (big band) - "S'Wonderful". Sandvika has been making music together for more than two decades, and does so with a minimum of error and an abundance of drive and teamwork. This new release, the third I've seen from the ensemble, benefits enormously from Menza's towering presence (he wrote three of the 10 numbers and solos on "Lining Up!" "Angel Eyes" and "If Right Was Wrong") and that of two talented guests from England, Mark Nightingale and Claire Martin. Nightingale, who bears more than a passing resemblance to a couple of outstanding young American trombonists, Andy Martin and Paul McKee (as well as to veteran Carl Fontana), arranged and solos on the Gershwin's "S'Wonderful", wrote the swinging Jazz waltz "In the Clear", salutes the "Days of Wine and Roses" and walks boldly "On the Street Where You Live". Martin, whose welllearned stature as one of Jazzdom's finest contemporary singers has spread well beyond the borders of her homeland, lends her impressive vocal talents to "Angel Eyes," "Street Where You Live" and Lennon/McCartney's "Come Together". Sandvika, meanwhile, is at its collective best on Menza's "Lining Up!" (which includes a number of demanding passages for brass and reeds) and Swedish composer Örjan Fahlström's seductive shuffle, "If Right Was Wrong". Sandvika also has its own arsenal of sharp-shooting soloists including guitarist Kjekstad ("Come Together," "Lining Up!"), pianist Lien ("Come Together"), tenor Barlo ("In the Clear", Menza's "Broadbottom"), trombonist/music director Carlsen (Menza's "Faviana"), drummer Ellingsen ("Lining Up!") and trumpeters Strømme ("Faviana") and Haltli ("In The Clear","Days of Wine and Roses"). When it comes to big bands, Sandvika spells excellence; add Menza, Nightingale and Martin and that spells pure-blooded excitement.

Jack Bowers



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Fløyelsmykt fett og rått

Aj-Aj! Hvis det er mulig å gå av hengslende etter å ha hørt en storbandplate er tiden definitivt inne. Maken til plate som Sandvika Storband har spilt inn savner sannsynligvis sidestykke her til lands. Lyden er stor i alle betydninger. Bandet består av drivende gode musikere som denne gangen har tatt med seg et knippe flotte solister. Denne gjengen behersker alle stilarter og «Lining Up!» er blitt en plate uten svakheter. Det er fløyelsmykt, det er fett og det er rått! Musikernes presisjon og hele platas «sound» er eminent og det kan hende jeg tar feil (og det hadde faktisk vært hyggelig), men dette må være landets beste storband i dag. De spiller faktisk «fletta av» sine mer anerkjente proffkollegaer. For i den drøye timen musikken bølger ut av høytalerne åpenbares musikkglede og en ypperlig kvalitet både blant musikere og teknikere.

Bare ett ord er godt nok: Knallbra!

Trond Erikson

Fra Smaalenenes Medier