

Natural Artefacts in Concert

New Jazz from Sweden

Friday 4 October 2019, 17.00h at Auditório do DeCA

Natural Artefacts started as a collaboration between composer Per Anders Nilsson and the musicians Susanna Lindeborg and Ove Johansson. The trio developed a concept where the computer and electronics act as totally integrated instruments. After a break when Saxophone player Ove Johansson passed away 2015, the original members Susanna Lindeborg and Per Anders Nilsson started a new version 2018, together with Merje Kāgu, guitar, and Anton Jonsson, percussion. The base is, and has always been, a mix of acoustic and electronic instruments where influences from different genres and traditions are central. You can find free improvisation, new music, minimalism, electronica and electro acoustic music. What combines the musicians is their back ground as jazz musicians. With a new repertoire, that contains compositions, loose structures and electronic backgrounds especially made for this setting, Natural Artefacts continues to explore new and unknown musical landscapes.



Susanna Lindeborg, Merje Kāgu, Per Anders Nilsson, Anton Jonsson

Press Voice about the group's latest recording, *The Crux*:

The Crux is the most completely wrought album I've heard to date from Lindeborg and Nilsson: its shape-shifting acoustic/electronic field has a mesmerising effect, with Kāgu's clipped and singing guitar and Jonsson's pithy percussion completely wired to the pursuit of the unclassifiable which seems the order of the day here. There are both "little sounds" redolent of treasured folk tropes and "big sounds" which conjure post-apocalyptic thoughts of a piece of Weather Report vinyl, eaten away by acid rain; spaced-out grooves (Open Path, Red Room and Webern's Mode) an suspended cross-rhythms and indeterminate textures (Whereabouts).

A superb, really striking recording: the more you listen – and listen hard – the more it gives you. (Michael Trucker, Jazz Journal, July 2019).

The concert is made with support from Swedish Arts Council, Svensk Musik, and the University of Aveiro.

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Bios

Per Anders Nilsson (1954) is an electro acoustic improviser and composer. At the outset a saxophone player within the Scandinavian jazz idiom, but gradually switched to electronic instruments. Nilsson has been member of, and managed, different improvisation groups since the 70s, among them Volapyk, Beam Stone, duo pantoMorf and Natural Artefacts. In addition, Nilsson has toured and recorded with artists such as Karin Krog, Evan Parker, Eddie Prevost and John Tilbury. For the time being he is employed as professor in music and media at Academy of Music and Drama at the University of Gothenburg. Nilsson's music is characterized of a mix of influences from different genres, and he strives for the ambiguity in music.

Susanna Lindeborg (1952) is primarily known for her mix of acoustic and electronic instruments, mostly in the group Mwendo Dawa. Lindeborg has toured extensively internationally with successes in Europe, the Americas, and China, on festivals such as Montreux, North Sea, and Montreal. In recent years she has toured regularly in the US, Canada and Europe with Menudo Dawa and Natural Artefact. Susanna also performs as a solo artist. Her most recent solo CD, Excursions, was nominated to the Music prize by Nordic Council.

Merje Kägu (1986) is an Estonian guitarist and composer, currently residing in Gothenburg, Sweden. She studied jazz guitar at the Estonian Academy of Music and graduated the master program in improvisation at the Gothenburg Academy of Music and Drama. She has appeared with her original music and collaborated with inspiring musicians in Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Scotland etc. Throughout her career, she has been studying and working in the field of improvised music, performing, composing, recording and working with various ensembles and artists. She has performed both solo and with ensembles. Her professional work as a performer-composer has always leaned towards close collaborative work with musicians from different fields.

Anton Jonsson (1990) is a Swedish jazz and free jazz drummer. He grew up in Kungsfors outside Sandviken. Jonsson started to play drums at the age of five and in his early teens he started to perform rock'n'roll music around Sweden. Eventually he discovered jazz, free improvised music and free jazz. He studied at Bollnäs Folkhögskola, Fridhem Folkhögskola and the Academy of Music and Drama in Göteborg where he studied for Anders Jormin, Raymond Strid, Sten Sandell, Michala Østergaard Nielsen and Göran Kroon. His performances focus on interplay and also a strong determined direction. Anton has performed in Europe, America and Asia. He has recorded several records with band such as Into the Wild and Strange Birds passing. In 2018 he and his friend, Pelle Westlin, started the record label Grodor & Fåglar.

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