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Harald Walkate's The New York Second Trio - "After The Hours, The Minutes"

NY2 Records, May 13Th, 2023

24 JUNE 2023 HÜLYA TUNÇAĞ

Harald Walkate (piano)

Lorenzo Buffa (bass)

Max Sergeant (drums)

1. Prelude
2. Professor Nelson Strikes Again
3. Song About Nothing
4. The Great Wait
5. There But The Grace Of God
6. Moon 2018
7. After The Hours,The Minutes
8. Your Cat Got My Rabbit
9. What The Bagelman Saw
10. Allez Les Bleus
11. Let's Go Where The Mountain People Go

I introduced Dutch pianist Harald Walkate's 2022 album "Music At Night" with his ensemble The New York Second, featuring award-winning trumpeter Teus Nobel, in Jazz Dergisi. This time Walkate presents The New York Second in a trio project. Italian bassist Lorenzo Buffa and Dutch drummer Max Sergeant are the other members of the trio.

All tracks on the album "After The Hours, The Minutes" are Walkate's compositions and arrangements. The pianist describes these compositions as traces left by the passing of time. His inspiration is the essay "On The Passage Of Time" by Dutch writer Paul van Tongeren.

"Profesor Nelson Strikes Again", one of the Walkate compositions on the album, has an interesting title reminiscent of an adventure movie. However, its inspiration is Richard R. Nelson's 1977 book "The Moon And The Ghetto", which the pianist read on the recommendation of a friend. Walkate later had the opportunity to interview Professor Nelson, the author of the book who compared the moon landing with the fixing problems of the ghetto and questioned why we cannot achieve both.

"Song About Nothing" and "The Great Wait" are Walkate's modern works in which he transfers his intellectual conflicts into his music. The New York Second Trio's "interplay" is characterized by flowing solos.

"There But For The Grace Of God" is a minimalist work that crystallizes the questioning yet mystical feelings that Van Tongeren's essay "On The Passage Of The Time" evoked in Walkate. The star of the piece is drummer Max Sergeant. A few years ago, Harald Walkate's wife presented him on his birthday with a photograph by Dutch photographer Ilona Langbroek, titled "Moon, 2018", which inspired the modern ballad "Moon, 2018".

"After The Hours, The Minutes", "Your Cat Got My Rabbit", "What The Bagelman Saw", "Now, We're Talking", "Allez Les Bleus", "Let's Go Where The Mountain People Go" are Walkate's other compositions that capture the spirit of the times. The New York Second Trio's interpretation of European modern jazz is understated, fluent, and woven like a tapestry...