

Josef Wagner's Memory Control: "The Wonderful Music Gives Happy You"

The Austrian quartet "Memory Control" has been bassist/composer Josef Wagner's working band since 2009. With „The Wonderful Music Gives Happy You“ the group has released a diverse and colourful debut album on Alessa records.

Several stylistic elements of modern jazz, such as collective improvisation, extended modality, sound exploration, but also conventional playing over chord changes find their way into the group's music. Both Wagner's distinct compositional style and the originality of the musicians involved save the music from being eclectic or arbitrary. The emotional spectrum on the record ranges from subtle chamber music to powerful rock elements. You can find a sensitive ballad as well as a Monk-style tune with a whacky second-line groove or a melancholic/romantic drum feature.

Clemens Salesny plays alto saxophone, saxello and bass clarinet with expressive virtuosity, always looking for interaction with the rhythm section. Philipp Jagschitz on piano and Fender Rhodes is both an intelligent and creative accompanist as well as a multifaceted soloist. Together with Josef Wagner on acoustic bass guitar and Thomas Froschauer's finely nuanced drumming the band creates a fresh and vital sound that is deeply rooted in jazz tradition but also keenly interested in experimentation.



The musicians:

Josef Wagner is composer and bass player of the “LA Bigband“ as well as composer of the “Chamber-Pop“-group “Punches & Judies. He has worked with writer Herman Niklas in the performance group “schalldicht“ and composed electronic music with “Breaking Pavel“. As a bass player he has worked with Wolfgang Puschnig, Allegre Correa, Heavy Tuba, Lorenz Raab, Gerald Preinfalk, Edward Powell, Wolfgang Bräuer, Frank Schwinn ...

Clemens Salesny is the leader of bands “Salesny/Schabata/Preuschl + Herbert Joos“ and the “Clemens Salesny Electric Band“. Salesny is co-founder of Jazzwerkstatt Wien und winner of the “Hans Koller Prize“. Further collaborations: Steven Bernstein, Uri Caine, Eddie Henderson, Joe Zawinul, Oliver Lake, Sunny Murray, Harry Pepl, Uli Scherer, Donald Smith, Georg Breinschmid, Max Nagl ...

Philipp Jagschitz is the leader of the “Philipp Jagschitz Trio“ with Matthias and Andreas Pichler. Philipp plays the piano in numerous bands, such as Falb Fiction, Maja Osojnik Band, Bastian Stein’s Gravity Point, and Schwarzmarkt. Further collaborations: Wolfgang Puschnig, Wolfgang Schiffner, Lorenz Raab, Gerald Preinfalk, Gerald Gradwohl, Ulrich Drechsler ...

Thomas Froschauer is drummer in the following bands: café mut. , das mädchen hinkt, Big John & The Vienna Soul Society, hiroi, Veland and the Wolfgang Bräuer Trio. Further collaborations: Bumi Fian, Alpine Aspects, Uli Scherrer, Hubert Tubbs, Thomas Gansch, Würzburg Jazz Orchestra, Anik Kandinsky, Billy Swan, Hans Salamon...