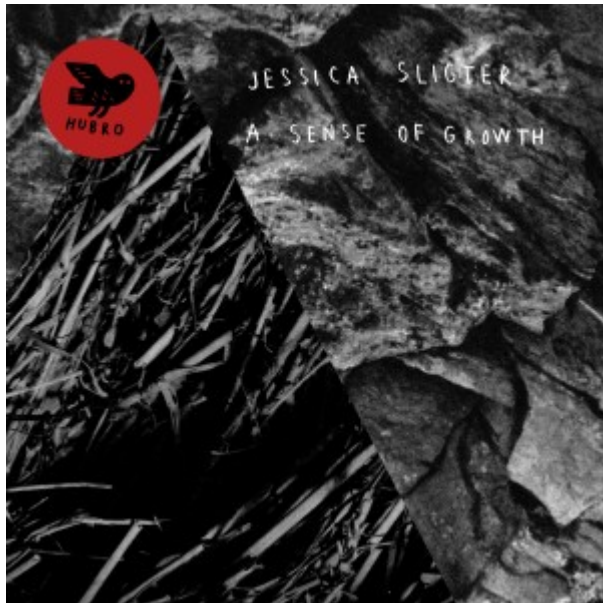




RELEASE: May 2016



A Sense Of Growth

JESSICA SLIGTER: Surrounds, Surrounds Me · Wherever You Go · A Sense Of Growth · The Dream-dealer · The Smoking Tree · Mercilessly Clear · Run, Now!

Jessica Sligter: vocals, piano, synth · Timm Mason: synthesizers · Eyvind Kang: viola, bass · Dave Abramson: drums, percussion · Randall Dunn: synth, vocals · Jenny Hval: vocals (3, 4) · Viljam Nybacka: vocals (4, 5) · Kevin Barrans: vocals (4, 7), accordion, banjo (7) · Skerik: saxophones (1, 3, 4, 7) · Kristine Tjøgersen: clarinets (4, 5) · Guro Moe: bass (5, 6) · Sarah Jeffery: paetzold recorder (6) · Håvard Skaset: guitar (1) · Milky Burgess: guitar (2) · Andreas Løwe: synth (5) · Solmund Nystabakk: guitar (7)

The dutch-norwegian vocalist and composer Jessica Sligter received glowing reviews for her previous album «Fear and the Framing» and for her debutalbum released under the moniker Jæ. «A Sense Of Growth» is by far Jessica´s best and most adventurous album so far. The varied, bold and more abstract sonic surroundings suits her songwriting and both intimate and dramatic presence extremely well.

“Sligter´s sinuous, torchlike songs shift from soft to harsh – not jarringly like the Pixies´ loud-quiete template, but sneakily and softly. But it´s her voice, lyrics and the overall atmosphere that mark this as something special.”
Mojo Magazine (UK)

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«A Sense of Growth» was recorded in Seattle and was produced by Jessica and Randall Dunn (Marissa Nadler, Akron/Family, Earth) who also mixed Jessica´s last album. Eyvind Kang on viola and bass (Mr Bungle, Animal Collective, John Zorn) is one of many contributing musical guests, and has also written string arrangements.

There´s more synthesizers involved this time around, but Jessica's characteristic vocals remain the primary focus. Both the arrangements and the overall sound of this album is more complex, adventurous and showcases Jessica´s accomplished production skills.

More abstract

«On this album, musical elements I've worked with include more abstract sonic images», Jessica says. «In short, I'm still trying in a sense to deconstruct the format of «songbased music».»

Mercilessly Clear

Since her previous album Sligter has done many different collaboration projects and written commissioned works together with amongst others Susanna and Jenny Hval. Jenny Hval is also contributing with vocals on two tracks on the new album.

Several songs on the album was originally written for a concert Jessica did with Susanna at Henie Onstad Art Center in 2014 for the exhibition «We live on a star». The song «Mercilessly Clear» is based on a Harry Martinson's novel/long form poem «Aniara».

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Avantgarde, Singer/Songwriter

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"– Bewitching third offering from Dutch-Norwegian singer-songwriter. A Sense Of Growth is a fitting title for this electro-folk artist´s third album, given the boldness and complexity she brings to each new project. It sees Sligter in fine voice – there are shades of Liz Green in her mournfulness and melodrama – and taking in electronic and blues folk, avant-pop and, on “The Smoking Tree”, improv and spoken word. “Mercilessly Clear” seems to step out of music altogether and into the realms of installation art. If that sounds a bit much, Sligter has reined in her more extreme creative impulses to provide a fluid, compelling and boldly imaginative piece of work. [Uncut / Fiona Sturges]"