



# Bass Trip

TEPPU HAUTA-AHO: Kadenza · ARVO PÄRT: Spiegel im Spiegel · PAUL RAMSIER: Sahara Rainforest (Zoo of Dreams III) · JON ØIVIND NESS: Gust · MARIO LAVISTA: Dusk · HENRIK HELLSTENIUS: Ombra della sera · LARS PETTER HAGEN: Hymn · STEFAN SCHÄFER: L'Adieu · PÉTRIS VASKS: Bass Trip

**Dan Styffe, double bass · Hans Kristian Kjos Sørensen, percussion · Øystein Birkeland, cello · Susanna Wallumrød, vocal · Catherine Bullock, viola · Gonzalo Moreno, piano**

– Styffe produces a performance of dark tone colours with a lyrical musical line from beginning to end. [International Record Review on the release Revisited]

**Solo bass-player with the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra Dan Styffe launches his third solo album with brand new repertoire for the instrument. Nine composers, including such well-known names as Pärt and Vasks, allow Styffe to really excel together with a handful of the foremost Norwegian musicians today.**

Legendary bass-player Gary Karr writes in his introduction to the booklet: “Styffe has focused on a sonic exploration that draws out of any ordinary sound system colors and nuances one could have never imagined possible.” This autumn Styffe gives concerts and master classes in Paris, Leipzig, Trieste and Wrocław, and during the Ultima festival in October he is premiering a concerto for double bass together with the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra.

## Modern classic in a new register

The mesmerizing masterpiece Spiegel im Spiegel by Arvo Pärt is of course no less than a classic, and Styffe was given the green light by the composer for a version for the double bass. The Kadenza by Teppo Hauta-Aho is among the most popular and performed works for double bass today.

## Four commissions

Several of the pieces on Bass Trip are commissions made by Styffe, and they all explore different territories of the double bass. Jon Øivind Ness unleash primal forces in his duo for bass and viola Gust, and Henrik Hellstenius stages a mysterious drama for bass and percussion in Ombra della sera (Evening shadows). The Hymn by Lars Petter Hagen is described as “a piece of non-existing folk music for an enormous, virtual, Hardanger fiddle.”

## Magical

The title track of this release is by Peteris Vasks, himself a bass player. It moves from ‘larger than life’ deep power to the utmost beauty in the melancholy little waltz at the end. In the score the composer directs that the melody can be whistled or sung by the player, but we felt that this beautiful moment called for something quite singular. With the composer’s blessing we gave the vocal part to Susanna Wallumrød, known from Susanna And The Magical Orchestra (Rune Grammofon). The result is a perfect end to an exiting and rewarding trip into new music for double bass in splendid performance.

Release: | Catalogue number: PSC1288 | EAN: 7033662012886 | Price category: 1CDK | Genre(s): Solo,Strings,Contemporary Music