

Elof & Wamberg - Byen Sover (21. Nov, 2015)

With their new album "Byen Sover" ("The City is Sleeping") Elof & Wamberg have continued to develop the unique, organic sound that was characteristic of their highly acclaimed debut album: "12 ornli' syge tracks for 'ukulele & kontrabas" (2012).

The tracks from the album are the product of two years during which the two musicians have experimented with new ways of expressing their Nordic sound. The album was recorded at Mallorca Studio in collaboration with Morten McCoy from the jazz-duo Bremer/McCoy, who is also known as Raske Penge's producer. It is therefore not surprising, that the album combines elements from Nordic Folk Music, Jazz and Reggae.

- The title of the album, "Byen Sover" ("The City is Sleeping"), refers to the duo's intention to create an organic breathing space – a peaceful bubble – in the middle of the chaotic and pulsating city life. The duo's hometown Copenhagen, is the primary source of inspiration for the album, but some of the tracks came to life in cities such as Budapest, Berlin and Honolulu. Elof & Wamberg are constantly seeking to reflect upon urban life and its relation to everyday life and traditions.

The album opens with the uncompromising and meditative "Intro" that, with the help of Nicolaj Wamberg's powerful contrabass riff, effortlessly leads to the album track "Byen Sover". The album's atmosphere is then lifted by a new instrumental interpretation of 2 traditional melodies "Brudestykker", that originate from Fanø.

The Copenhagen urbane sound becomes apparent in the track "Hørsholmsgade" (name of a specific street in Copenhagen), in which the low and raw contrabass melody makes clear references to hiphop – here, Tobias Elof slides into the background by producing a solid beat with his 'ukulele. The roles stay the same for the reggae-remix of the track "Måneskin" ("Moonlight"), that is an interpretation of a traditional Hungarian Folk Melody. Here, the violinist Nicolaj Wamberg grabs the opportunity to share his passion for Hungarian Folk Music.

Elof & Wamberg take their time when playing music. Their instruments investigate dream-like sound moods and keep the sound atmosphere in "Verden" and "Menuet". The 'ukulele's circular melodies might remind you of a harpe, while the contrabass with its deep and repetitive tones will succeed in upholding the mood.

In what may come as a surprise, sounds from a piano appear in the last track "Noret", thereby closing the album and rounding off the narrative of "Byen Sover".

The album has been released in collaboration with Go Danish Folk and can be acquired on folkshop.dk, iTunes and on your favourite music service.