

LASSE LINDGREN

BIG CONSTELLATION

Big Band Power Jazz Energy Dynamic Swing

Read these great review's of LLBC in concert and on record "Spirit's".

Remarkable solo contributions!

Lasse Lindgren Big Constellation

Plays in the Spirit of Maynard Ferguson (Imogena)

Swedish trumpeter Lasse Lindgren pays tribute to one of his greatest idols, Maynard Ferguson, with a CD featuring a large jazz group that is a complete energy knockout, from the opening "Birdland", the Joe Zawinul classic in an almost ecstatic version, to the conclusion with the Ferguson favourite "I Got The Spirit". And between these for instance was Ferguson's hit ballad "Maria" from Bernstein's "West Side Story", in an ultra-cool interpretation with blues-soaked solo playing by Lindgren, with imaginatively arranged brass and wind parts. In fact the brass and wind arrangements are an outstanding part of the whole production, colourful and hard driving, but at the same time very well disciplined in the elegant collective ensemble sound. Equally remarkable are the solo contributions, often interwoven in the ensemble with maestro Lindgren in a central role.

A powerful rhythm section and the extra spice of a Hammond organ hardly make things less appetising.

This is some of the best Swedish jazz by a large ensemble that I have heard in a long time.

Ulf Gustavsson/Uppsala Nya Tidning

Concert, Liseberg Jazz festival, Gothenburg.

Successful start for some more Jazz!

Best act of the evening: Lasse Lindgren Big Constellation.

..After an hour's interval 14 men took their place on stage in the form of Lasse Lindgren's Big Constellation. Lasse has Maynard Ferguson, who died recently, as one of his favourite idols and even owns one of his trumpets. It turned out to be a concert in the spirit of the trumpet master with the band playing some of Ferguson's original arrangements.

Lasse's brass and reed sections can play loud and forcefully. A rock-steady rhythm section with two drummers adds even more to the sound and the pulse. **The result was a program of explosive, dynamic music.**

The leader played solos both on valve-trombone and trumpet, but at the same time allowed other soloists to stretch out, like trombonist Niklas Rydh and tenor saxophonist Björn Cedergren.

Tore Ljungberg / Göteborgs Posten

Hi Lasse,

Thanks for the CD. I have listened to nearly every track and

I must say that it is one of the most frightening things (in the positive sense) that I have heard in my life!!

I just sat there with my mouth wide open in astonishment!!

I was so shaken by the music that suddenly tears started to run. Completely knocked-out!!

This is a success Lasse and if this doesn't eliminate the competition in the field of big band jazz I don't know what will. Great ensemble playing with an incredible bite and you play better than ever.

The other soloists in the band are also very good.

I take my hat off to you and offer you my congratulations.

Åke Björänge

*President of Sandviken International Jazz Festival
and Musical Director of Sandviken Big Band*

Lasse Lindgren achieves an impossible mission!

Nobody in his right mind throws himself into the task of playing Maynard Ferguson's repertoire and arrangements, where high note trumpet technique is in focus. Oh, but YES! There is a wild man from Gothenburg.

This new CD contains a selection of arrangements that MF had in his big band repertoire.

Sonny Rollins' "Airegin" is to say the least an impressive demonstration of what a Swedish big band with 4 trumpets, 2 trombones, 4 saxes and 4 rhythm is capable of today.

Lasse Lindgren has truly succeeded with his daringly ambitious task of putting together an MF concept of this calibre. He also succeeds in contributing his own personal touch to the proceedings. You can hear Hammond organ in there and in "I Can't Get Started" Lasse even offers the vocal touch with his own special lyrics that are amusing and personal as well as, naturally, his brilliant trumpet playing. Even if Lasse himself is outstanding, one must also mention his colleagues Johan Borgström, Göran Kroon, David Sundby, "Skåne" Cedergren and Jens Nilsson.

The whole band sizzles with life, well rehearsed and alert.

**At Sandviken's Jazz Festival this band can be heard live. Don't miss this opportunity!!
it is a band of international status, to say the least!**

Lennart Lundqvist / Gästriklands Tidning



5 stars!!.....Lasse also sings and he is terrific! **BRILLIANT!!!!!!**

Göran Engström / Smålands Tidning

...He showcases himself in a powerful physical style where the playing in the higher octaves impresses.
But he can also break the pattern with well-sculptured improvisations.



Excellent!!!

Göran Olson / DIG Jazz Magazine

Lasse Lindgren has put together a real powerhouse group that has propelled itself into the task of playing music out of Maynard Ferguson's rich and plentiful repertoire. Through a donation from ex-Ferguson musician and manager, Lindgren has received access to the original arrangements that Maynard himself used.

And now the Lindgren band is documented on the Imogena album:

Lasse Lindgren Big Constellation Plays In The Spirit Of Maynard Ferguson – **Spirits!**

I can promise you that it swings immensely, this magnificent band in which all the members come from the west coast of Sweden. Besides Lasse himself we hear some excellent solo contributions from Johan Borgström, Björn Cedergren, Jens Nilsson and others. Lindgren will be presenting his constellations at the coming Sandviken International Jazz Festival "Bangen".

Be sure not to miss this!!!!

Hans-Erik Bergman / Sundsvalls Tidning

Big Band Jazz.

**Lasse Lindgren Big Constellation
Plays In The Spirit Of Maynard Ferguson**

(Imogena)

Gothenburg is the home of several good big bands. Lasse Lindgren, trumpeter with routine, has developed his own style, he is truly a high level player. It is quite obvious that Maynard Ferguson is one of his greatest inspirations. The newly formed Lasse Lindgren Constellation is a tight band with a strongly pulsating rhythm (two drummers) and a very convincing ensemble of brass and reeds. On this CD Lindgren plays tribute to Maynard Ferguson. It is full of life and rich in sound and we can recognise the numbers from Ferguson's repertoire. But it is not only the ensemble that impresses, there is also room for individual contributions.

Lively big band music of high class.

Tore Ljungberg / Göteborgs Posten

www.lasselindgren.se