

MARTINA ALMGREN

This Song of Mine

Drummer and composer Martina Almgren is described as a colourful addition to the contemporary Swedish jazz scene. Her passion for playful improvisations, enticing rhythms and expressive melodies reflects her drumming as well as her compositions.

Martina Almgren entered the Swedish jazz scene in the late 90s and is today also involved in several international collaborations. Acting as a band/co-leader for Martina & Owe Almgren Quartet, Oh Yeah Orchestra and MOZ Trio (with British pianist Zoe Rahman), she has so far released eight albums and composed on commission for the Swedish Jazz Radio and contemporary ensembles.

On her new album "This Song of Mine", Martina collaborates with the oud player Ahmad al Khatib with roots in Palestine, the Swedish singer Karin Burman and the acoustic bass guitarist Owe Almgren. The album features music composed to poems by the India/Bengali poet Rabindranath Tagore and has influences from jazz as well as world and English Medieval music.

"I searched for new ways to approach composition and I wanted to work with lyrics. So I let the words lead and form a melody - I sang the poem at the first sight instead of reading it. This became a creative start for me. In a chamber music format I explored the expressions of the instruments; oud, vocals, acoustic bass guitar and percussion and let the musicians add their individual colour."

Martina Almgren drums & percussion
Ahmad al Khatib oud
Karin Burman vocals
Owe Almgren acoustic bass guitar

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