

ROPE (DE/UK)



Uwe Oberg piano / Frank Paul Schubert soprano saxophone
Paul Rogers 7 string bass / Mark Sanders drums

CD Oberg / Schubert / de Joode / Sanders: ROPE (Red Toucan Records, 11/2015)

Schubert and Oberg play together since 2009, mostly as a duo, but also with drummers Günter Baby Sommer, Christian Lillinger, Jörg Fischer.

Berlin based soprano saxophonist Frank Paul Schubert works regularly with Willi Kellers, Andreas Willers, Johannes Bauer, Matthias Müller, John Edwards, Mark Sanders, Paul Dunmall, Alexander von Schlippenbach and many more. Besides ROPE, he is member of the bands GRID MESH, FOILS and the FABRIC TRIO.

Otmar Klammer (Austrian ORF) writes about Uwe Oberg: "Oberg is one of the few, that really join american with european improvised music;(...) one of the most intriguing pianists at the fascinating intersection of New Music and Free Jazz, who impresses mainly with an economic style". 2007 he received the Jazzprize of the state of Hessen and plays with LACY POOL, Silke Eberhard, Eric Plandé Trio and as a soloist.

For the quartet ROPE Oberg and Schubert join the British drummer Mark Sanders and British bass-player Paul Rogers, two of European improvisers most in demand - promising an startling and exciting coup. John Fordham (the Guardian) on Mark Sanders: "...in a set of explorations with drummer Mark Sanders, a gifted player capable of seamless movement between free-rhythms and propulsive swing."

ROPE'S music is characterized from the sleepwalker-like interplay, also from the constructive playing with texture. Despite the spontaneity and love for details the four always keep the dynamic course in mind - instant composing literally. They mix their diverse musical experiences into a unique music, where unspoiled, meditative, abstract and jazzy elements form a new unit - beyond categories.

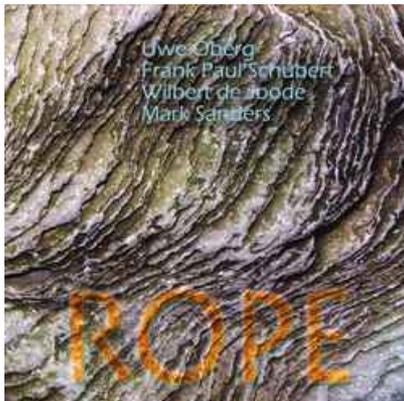
CD Frank Paul Schubert & Uwe Oberg: SHOTS & COUPS (gligg-records 055, 2012)

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Uwe Oberg - Frank Paul Schubert - Wilbert de Joode - Mark Sanders: Rope

By [GLENN ASTARITA](#)

April 6, 2016



These upper-echelon European improvisers offer a grab bag of tasty treats in front of an audience at the *Festival Just Music* in Wiesbaden, Germany. This 2015 performance consists of three works, but the 35-minute opener "Drifter," is a tour de force amid a macrocosm of delicate phrasings, succinct shadings, ethereal background treatments and scorching, climactically driven buildups. Essentially, they keep you on the edge.

Frank Paul Schubert's darting and weaving soprano sax lines and pianist Uwe Oberg's multifaceted attack help spawn numerous crosscurrents and asymmetrical cadences, complete with the anticipated peaks and valleys, as the alternating subplots include a surfeit of dynamics. These improvisations are executed with diverse emotive aspects, whether the band is conjuring up an inward-looking vibe or throwing fuel on the fire during frenzied breakouts. They wind it all down, then come back with a vengeance along with Schubert's skittish and rough-hewn flurries and drummer Mark Sander's colorful use of small percussion instruments that augment his drumming duties.

The quartet's animated movements often summon cinematic qualities, allowing the mind's eye to run rampant as they follow similar discourses on the remaining two pieces that are considerably shorter in length. (Recommended!)

Personnel: Uwe Oberg: piano; Frank Paul Schubert: soprano saxophone; Wilbert De Joode: bass; Mark Sanders: drums.

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