

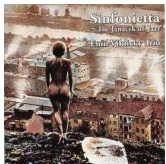
## Emil Viklicky Trio - Sinfonietta: The Janacek of Jazz (2009)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 10 July 2015 16:00 - Last Updated Friday, 10 July 2015 16:49

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## Emil Viklicky Trio - Sinfonietta: The Janacek of Jazz (2009)



01. *The Forlorn Peach Tree* 02. *When I Walked* 03. *A Bird Flew Over* 04. *Gone With Water*  
05. *In The Mists* 06. *Touha* 07. *My Lover is Leaving Me* 08. *Fanoshu* 09. *Sweet Basil* 10.  
*She Was Walking Meadow* 11. *Jenufa Act2.Scene 8* 12. *Sinfonietta* Emil Viclicky - Piano  
George Mraz - Bass Lewis Nash - Drums Laco Tropp - Drums (on Sinfonietta)

Folk melodies have inspired many jazz musicians around the world to meld the improvisational and rhythmic flairs of jazz with local traditions to create something new. We have seen Toshiko Akiyoshi do so with Japanese folk songs and Jan Lundgren with Swedish melodies. Emil Viklicky of the Czech Republic (b. 1948) stands out among them as an adapter of Moravian songs to jazz.

Described by one critic as "the Janacek of jazz," Viklicky has extensively studied the music and methods of Leos Janacek (1854-1928), one of the four great Czech composers along with Smetana, Dvorak and Martinu. He has studied at Berklee School of Music and his individualistic piano style is informed by Wynton Kelly, Bill Evans and Bud Powell. On this Japanese debut CD, Viklicky uses Janacek's and his own compositions--all based on or inspired by Moravian songs--as vehicles for his unique adaptation and improvisation.

Supporting him in a trio format is his countryman, long-time collaborator and bass virtuoso George Mraz, and first-rate drummer Lewis Nash. This is a truly unique blend of music: the mood is often melancholic and languid, the harmonies are subtle and complex, and melodies strikingly beautiful. The levels of musicianship and interaction are extremely high. It may not appear exciting at a casual glance, but attentive listeners will be richly rewarded. Recommended! --- eastwindimport.com

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