

Michal Urbaniak Group – Inactin (1975)

Written by bluesever

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1 Inactin

2 Alu

3 Ekim

4 Silence

5 Fall

6 Groovy Desert

7 Lato

Personnel: Michal Urbaniak – violin, soprano saxophone Urszula Dudziak - Voice, Percussion, Effects Adam Makowicz - Piano [Fender], Clavinet [Hohner] Roman Dylag - bass Czeslaw Bartkowski - Drums, Cymbal Branislav Kovacev - Congas

If one were looking for a single most important contribution of Polish jazz musicians into world jazz heritage that would perhaps be the rediscovery of a violin in jazz. Works by Zbigniew Seifert paved the way for other Polish jazz violinists to be eventually recognized worldwide. Among them Michał Urbaniak plays the pivotal role as one of the most famous due to his collaboration with Miles Davis in 80ties on "Tutu" and "Music from Siesta" albums.

Urbaniak's career prior to collaboration with Miles remains as one of the most interesting adventures in Polish jazz history. He was among those who very early realized that jazz is taking great twist toward fusion incorporating in its idiom influences from rock, funk, rhythm'n'blues and folk music from all over the world. Michał plunged into this stream where he found his own place and uniqueness of his language eventually drew the attention of Davis. While rehearsing this album recorded in 1973 one can only admire the quality of this music which did not grow old even a bit.

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But this album is memorable not only due to Urbaniak's violin but also due to breathtaking performance by his then wife Urszula Dudziak. Undisputable Polish jazz singer number one at that era she was as powerful and original voice as Urbaniak's. On this album her voice plays role of the one more instrument, there are no songs, no words are spoken, but Dudziak's vocalizes are just beyond the praise. As much as are performances of other musicians taking part in this session, all cream the creme of Polish jazz: pianist Adam Makowicz, double-bassist Roman Dyląg, drummer Czesław Bartkowski and Serbian congas player Branislav Kovacev. What more can I say save that this is the Polish jazz at its best and simply the kind of album that is nothing less than a pure must! ---Maciej Nowotny, polish-jazz.blogspot.com

Po polskiej reedycji słynnego albumu "Fusion III" Urbaniak wydał w swojej wytwórni UBX winylową i kompaktową wersję płyty "Inactin*" nagraanej w Niemczech Zachodnich w 1971 r., a wydanej dopiero w 1975 r. Był to drugi po "Paratyphus B" album nagrany na Zachodzie.

Po wygraniu konkursu festiwalu Montreux '71 nasz skrzypek miał wysoką pozycję nie tylko w Polsce, ale także za granicą. Jego Michal Urbaniak Constellation uważana była za czołową europejską formację jazz-rockową.

Album "Inactin*" został nagrany przez kwintet Michała Urbaniaka w Stuttgarcie z gościnnym udziałem Branislava Kovaceva na kongach. Lider grał na skrzypcach i violonczelnie, jak nazywał swoje skrzypce elektryczne, oraz na saksofonie sopranowym. Urszula Dudziak modyfikowała partie wokalne za pomocą DYNacorda i Echocorda, Adam Makowicz grał na fortepianie Fender Rhodes i klawinecie Hohnera. Na kontrabasie i gitarze basowej grał Roman Dyląg, a na perkusji Czesław Bartkowski.

Tytułowy temat ma przebojowy charakter i wciąga od pierwszych taktów. Ballada "Alu" przypomina kołysankę Komedy z "Dziecka Rosemary", świetne solo gra tu Dyląg. Natomiast "Fall" to psychodeliczna improwizacja, która może się kojarzyć z narkotycznymi wizjami lub je wywoływać. Urbaniak był niewątpliwie zainspirowany albumem "Bitches Brew" i koncertowymi nagraniami Milesa Davisa. "Inactin*" nic nie stracił na wartości. ---Marek Dusza, audio.com.pl

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