

# FREDRIK LUNDIN OVERDRIVE

## “CHOOSE YOUR BOOTS”

Winner of “Danish Music Awards” for jazz release of the year, and of “Jazzspecials prize” for jazz release of the year.

There was a time when you could call **Fredrik Lundin** a young musician "deserving wider recognition" ; a musician with a great future before him - and rightly so.

But that's no longer the case. The 38-year-old Danish saxophonist is now a highly respected musician, composer and band leader. He has long ago been acknowledged as one of Denmark's foremost jazz artists. And Fredrik Lundin's renown has spread to other countries, where they know about the open-minded Danish jazz musician who can play it all.

Fredrik Lundin still has the future before him. He belongs to the rare breed of musicians who never cease to experiment and who do not rest on their laurels.

Lundin covers a wide field of styles, and he likes contexts where the music is only loosely structured - at times almost phlegmatic - but he also likes to really let go, e.g. as a flute player in the Latin-inspired band Dos Mundos; and then there was the period where he played something close to neo bop; there was the meeting with pianist Paul Bley; the spherical collaboration with his wife, singer Trine-Lise Væring; compositions here and work as a sideman there. His sound ranges from Scandinavian chill to fervent passion, his music from totally free to controlled and well-considered.

But the variety of Lundin's music doesn't mean that he lacks an identity of his own. And he's no drifter either. There's a point to the chosen way of expression. In everything that Fredrik Lundin does there's a rare feeling of recognition, there's artistic self-confidence and integrity. There's no mistaking his identity as an artist. He knows what he wants and never makes compromises.

That's why it's not at all surprising that Lundin now moves in a new direction. With "Choose Your Boots" he returns to his own roots - jazz music with its feet solidly planted in the swamp of blues and roots music - a pungent and colourful music with a devil-may-care expressiveness. According to Lundin himself, the music is a tribute to Charles Mingus and his music, which "stands as a symbol of fearless music-making and restless quest. Mingus' music will always be important and relevant, and he never feared big words and grand gestures".

But of course it wasn't enough for Lundin to record a well-functioning roots cd à la Dr John. It wasn't enough with a blues guitarist and a tough New Orleans beat - no, he wanted more. First he made a number of catchy, but suitably wry tunes, then he found two drummers, who are able to stay right there behind the beat, a guitarist who knows more than the usual blues licks, a super-swinging pianist who plays piano as well as keyboards, and a bass player with a steady and broad sound. And on top of that Lundin himself plays passionate and expressive tenor and soprano sax.

Under normal circumstances this would be more than enough, but Fredrik Lundin adds to this tight team no less than five brass players, for whom he has written supple and challenging voices and passages. And yes: it "kicks ass" .

""**Choose Your Boots**" is a summing up of a large part of my widespread activities as a musician for the past 20 years. For me the result not only reaches into the past but also into the future", says Fredrik Lundin.