**Press Review Dock In Absolute**

*Dock In Absolute, a young Luxembourgish pianist trio comprised of pianist Jean Philippe Koch, electric bassist David Kintziger and drummer Michel Meis. A very disciplined outfit, there was a baroque underpinning to Koch’s compositions wedded to an indie rock feel.*

**The New-York City Jazz Record**

Dock in Absolute: Drei vielversprechende Jungmusiker. Ein verträumtes, zuweilen romantisches Jazz-Rock Trio.

**Hermannstädter Zeitung**

*Dock In Absolute is a stellar trio from Luxembourg comprised of young musicians who breathed new life into the music scene through their debut album, released on CAM JAZZ, that features as many as twelve original tracks by Koch and one by Kintzinger. Its music is sparkling, varying, forceful, pressing, rich in twists and turns in mood: from lyrical to unrestrainable, from wild to graceful, from virtuosic and crystalline to assertive and dramatic, from subdued to airy and demonstrative. It can be charged-up one moment and calm the next, then take off again to reach vibrant sounds. An endless variety of melodic cells, often with a hypnotic pattern, alternating against a flamboyant, bright sonic background with unfaltering dynamics, never a half-way approach from this trio. Each track develops unexpectedly, since Dock In Absolute’s music thrives on contrasts: a minimalist theme in opposition to a grand richness of timbre, the endlessly blooming notes of a solo in opposition to a tireless, stern ostinato. Dock In Absolute proves that Jazz has myriads of stories to tell: thus, it should be allowed free rein.*

**CAM JAZZ**

*Dock In Absolute is a spelndid name for a group. It promises something rugged and certain.*

*What’s immediately striking about the music that comes out of this trio is how formidably certain it is.*

There is little point in fussing about how to categorize this music. *It seems to come, as the stranger said, from all over. There are strong classical flourishes in Jean-Philippe Koch’s pianism, great rolling lines with romantic sweep and epic heft, another side to the work he does with the family group Koch Trio; there are touches of funk in David Kintziger’s bass, but also a sense of intelligent worldliness, as befits a man who also works as actor, dancer and visual artist; and it’s easy to imagine that Michel Meis, the drummer, has made voyages into the free world. All that said, this is an intensely rhythmic and together jazz group.*

*The old language of the piano trio, which has been with us since Jess Stacy tried it out - time, surely, for a reappraisal of that gentleman, who*

*Koch reminds me of more than a little – sounds fresh and vital in their hands. The only issue with that consensus is that a great many of them pursue originality of direction and purpose only by leaving jazz behind.*

*This is an album packed with fascinating composition as well as terrific playing. “Soul Sculpture” stands out as a near-perfect realisation of its title, a piece with heart and emotion that nonetheless free-stands as a completely integral entity, a musical icon. “Inconscious Game” likewise, but more playfully. “Notturno” fulfils and subverts every expectation of that form, as if it were a nocturne for the white lights of the north, or the sudden enveloping dark of the equator.*

*You may not have heard them before, but you’ll know them from the first minute of the first track, and every time you hear them thereafter. For this is a band with real identity and the collective personality that Bill Evans always thought was the essence of (and an absolute necessity for) a working group.*

**BRIAN MORTON**

*„Dock in Absolute“ haben die Entwicklung von Luxemburger Musikacts auf dem Kopf gestellt. Mit ihren Auslandsauftritten setzte das Jazz-Trio bereits Ausrufezeichen; noch bevor sie im Großherzogtum überhaupt breiter bemerkt wurden.*

*Der Pianist und Komponist des Trios, Jean-Philippe Koch kann behaupten, das musikalische Talent des Vaters weiterzutragen.*

*Seinem Jazz hört man das aber dennoch an, diese „klassische“ Bildung. Jean-Philippe Koch arbeitet in Richtung melodischen Jazzrock. Läufe und schnelle Figuren, große Melodien liefern den Grundstock für die Kompositionen, die Koch für das Trio schreibt. Das, was Koch mit seinen kongenialen Combomitgliedern, dem Bassisten David Kintziger und dem Drummer Michel Meis, da live zaubern, ist kaum notiert.*

*Abrupte Tempowechsel, harte Pausen, erstaunliche Akzentuierungen und ausgefeilte Dynamikbögen treffen auf schwelgerische Melodien, kleine repetitive Motive und starke Soli. Alle drei können auf renommierte Musikhochschulen und andere Jazzcombos als Erfahrungsschatz verweisen; das merkt man dann auch in der Flexibilität und dem Miteinander im Spiel.*

*Der Sound, den sie entwickeln, ist Fusion auf seine Art. Meis merkt man den Heavy Metal-Background, Kintzinger legt dagegen eine scheinbare legere Funk-Leichtigkeit im Bass an den Tag.*

**Daniel Conrad, Wort Luxemburg**