

The Bridge/Kristian Schultze - Story



The Bridge -

name given by its three members Kristian Schultze, Pawel Jarzebski and Joe Nay to highlight their eclecticism, an integration of various musical styles to "bridge" the chasm between Jazz and contemporary classical works. Thus we see the introduction of electronic instruments for their first release. Another peculiar aspect is the absence of playbacks during their studio recordings, a reminiscence of the live recording era. "We want to reproduce during studio sessions an honest live feel and representation of our compositions, untainted by repetitions and playbacks". The bands lineup reads like the who's who of German Jazz-Rock. Kristian, son of Norbert Schulze famous for his composition "Lilli Marlen", received the highest accolade the "Förderpreis" of Konservatorium Berlin in 1963. Since 1968 he opened camp in Munich where he has written scores for several German feature films ("Zur Sache Schätzchen", "Nicht fummeln Liebbling", "Immer Vollmond" etc.). You'll be amazed by Kristian Schulze's skills on Keyboards, Fender-Rhodes and Synthesizers. Joe Nay staggering performance includes his renowned echo-technique. Joe was a steady sidekick of Roland Kirk, Johnny Griffin, Kenny Dorham and last but not least Coleman Hawkins. On Bass we have Pawel Jarzebski from Poland who has put his mark on the Jazz-Scene as one of the most respected progressive players. Kristian remembers his first encounter with Joe: In 1961 Joe Nay was the resident drummer at the „Blue Note“ in Berlin, with Peter Trunk on bass and Tete Montulio on Piano. I tried as a 16 year old aspiring pianist to join in and during my first attempt I was literally dragged away from the 'Blue Note' stage for the obvious lack of my skills at this time. Joe Nay offered me a couple of Drinks afterwards and told me that I shouldn't give up playing. During my second attempt it was Johnny Griffin who was on the bill. He counted in a blues in a staggering tempo which again was beyond my skills. Five years later I attended an international Jazz competition in Vienna. And guess who was cooking the drums? Nobody less than Joe. I finished 4th among the pianists. The competition was won by Fritz Pauer and the runner-up was the extraordinary Jan Hammer. Another 4 years later and Joe has become the sidekick of my own band. That's life.

The Bridge is complimented on „**Kritian-Schultze-Set**“ by Dusko Goykovich Trumpet and Olaf Kübler on Flute and Tenor Sax.