



The Free Jazz Collective

Reviews of Free Jazz and Improvised Music

Meet The Experimental Vocal Artists #4

Saturday, December 28, 2019 [Vocal](#) [No comments](#)

By [Eyal Hareuveni](#)

Danish Randi Pontoppidan, British Phil Minton, German Ute Wassermann, Dutch Jaap Blonk and Slovenian Irena Z. Tomažin keep expanding the frontiers of the human vocals.

Randi Pontoppidan - Rooms (Chant Records, 2019) ****½



Danish experimental vocalist-sound poet-composer-improviser-educator Randi Pontoppidan has worked with some of the greatest bass players of our times - Greg Cohen (their duo, Event Horizon, released its debut album, Space Geode on Chant, 2018), Joëlle Leánder and Jamaaladeen Tacuma as well as with Danish poet Morten Søndergaard, sax hero Lotte Anker and pianist Jakob Davidsen. She is also in-demand vocalist in the contemporary classical world, working with Paul Hillier's Theatre of Voices and performing works by Steve Reich, David Lang, Karlheinz Stockhausen and John Cage.

Pontoppidan's first solo album Rooms finds her exploring many rooms of her own, tp paraphrase Virginia Woolf, using only her voice, filtered through various loops and electronic effects and machines. Pontoppidan reaches the outer limits and the deepest secrets of her own voice - processed, multiplied and layered, and sketches an arresting series of imaginative and highly nuanced soundscapes, ranging from the angelic and spiritual ("Hush of Expectation", "Mari Si"), to playful sound poetry ("Dunh"), abstract industrial sounds ("Industrious - Moving Castle"), icy, sparse minimalism ("Arctic", "Tidal"), Reich-ian tribal pulse ("Dis Appearance") and hymnal and meditative ("Dreamy"). When the listening experience of Rooms takes over - and it happens quite fast, you may forget that all these colorful, suggestive sounds are made only by a human voice. You may feel abducted by friendly aliens, gifted with a thousand, singing tongues, tempting and charming in many magical, wordless languages, and happy to share their untimely, infinite wisdom with the attentive listeners.



[ROOMS](#) by Randi Pontoppidan

More: [Youtube](#) | [Soundcloud](#)

FREE = LIBERATED FROM SOCIAL, HISTORICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND MUSIC CONSTRAINTS

JAZZ = IMPROVISED MUSIC FOR HEART, BODY AND MIND

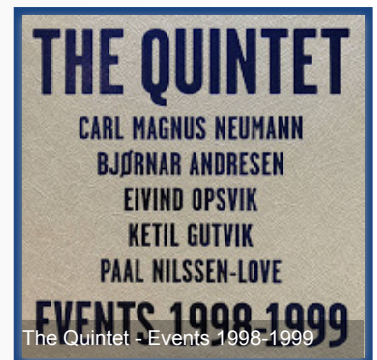


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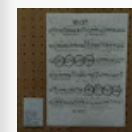
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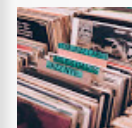
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