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Mathias Lundqvist: Modern Behaviour

Mathias Lundqvist

MODERN BEHAVIOR



By **Michael Tucker** 26 August 2020

In brief:

★ ★ ★

"... an unusually configured blend of sonorities delivered by a spot-on and well-attuned ensemble of jazz and classical musicians"

Released on his own label, this is Swedish pianist and composer Lundqvist's second album following his 2018 debut release *För Kännedom* which won him 1st Prize in the category of what the accompanying press release calls "the highly regarded Interna Songwriting Competition". *Modern Behaviour* is a strong follow-up.

It's a loosely connected song cycle about contemporary issues of identity and interaction in the "social media times" we are alleged to live in: hear the scrambled, low-key croon voices in *Alternative Facts*. The recital features (mostly) patiently measured, effective vocals from indie-pop singer Sandra Widman and actor and musical theatre performer Maria Lindström, set across or within an unusually configured blend of sonorities

delivered by a spot-on and well-attuned ensemble of jazz and classical musicians.

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Lundqvist, whose pianism is clean-lined and lucid throughout, wrote and arranged all music and lyrics, fashioning a thoughtful, chromatically sophisticated blend of chamber music abstraction (sample the opening of *Guise*) and diversely pitched and swinging precisely executed jazz, with tenorist Dalerud coming on strong on, e.g., *Around Here* and *Blues For The Millenials*.

So far, so good. However: it is beyond me how someone whose music evinces such a thoughtful and questioning intelligence could sanction the design of this CD's inner sleeve, with its minuscule font size served up in red and yellow, green and blue. Never mind alternative facts: how about an alternative approach to matters of legibility and logic in sleeve design?

Hear/buy Mathias Lundqvist: *Modern Behaviour* on [Spotify](#)

Discography

Look At Me; The Protocol; Beautyscapes; The Internet Me; Around Here; A Cautionary Tale; Blues For The Millenials; Guise; 87 Percent; Alternative Facts (46.02)

Lundqvist (p); Magnus Dalerud (ts); Lars Ekman (b); Matthias Puttonen (d); Mari Lindström, Sandra Widman (v); Sara Moller (o, Eng horn); Cathrine Kullbrandt (cl, bcl); Isabelle Andö (vn); Madeleine Johansson (clo). Kultivator Studio, Sweden 2020.

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