

CD REVIEW: NEW RELEASE

ARTIST: Gueorgui Kornazov "Horizons" Quintet

TITLE: The Budapest Concert

LABEL: BMC 216

TUNES: Na Toni/ Children's Song/ Veronique/ Budapest Suite: Pleveli/ Tango de Mars/ Balkan Spirit/ Cry/ Feux/ Love song 73:27

PERSONNEL: Gueorgui Kornazov, tbn; Emile Pariesien, ss; Manu Codjia g; Marc Buronfosse, bass; Karl Jannuska, d. Budapest, 8 September, 2011

In a sense the CD is in two parts. The first part has three tunes, while the rest of the CD is taken up by the "Suite". While listening to the suite, which features Hungarian melodies, I kept thinking is this what Bartok would have done if he was a jazz composer? Not so much because there are classical elements here, which is not the case, but because of the inventive use of what, to my ears, sound like folk melodies.

I especially like the interplay between Pariesien and Codjia on "Children" and "Veronique" is a great showcase for Kornazov where gets all kinds of sounds from his horn. I wonder if some of those sounds are from the mouthpiece alone. Other highlights include the great solo by Buronfosse on "Blakan" and the solo by Jannuska on "Cry".

In the old days of LPs, the suite would have been able to stand alone, but thanks to the CD format we get three extra tunes.

Bernie Koenig

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