

CHRISTIAN WINTHER REFUGE IN SOUND

March 7th, 2016 NEW RELEASE

Saxophonist Christian Winther's new release *Refuge in Sound* espouses the words of the great Louis Armstrong who once stated that "What we play is life." With a glowing tone, exquisite control and expressive lyricism, *Refuge in Sound* is the next chapter in the saxophonist's jazz-life story, one that exudes a melodious quality through a passionate pursuit of the art-form as Winther states "This release is about my personal connection with music. Playing from a place within and using my sound to share the stories I have to tell." These stories are now articulated by a stellar group of in-demand players that include the sinuous strings of guitarist Mike Moreno, the burning piano of Allyn Johnson and a flexible yet stalwart rhythm center provided by bassist Reuben Rogers and drummer Billy Williams Jr. and memorable vocals from Christie Dashiell on "One for Mulgrew."

A strong sense of melody and swing permeates *Refuge in Sound* which features original compositions written by Winther over the last couple of years. This is witnessed in the opening title track and the fiery up-tempo "Outsider" where the music dances with vibrant solos and crisp trades girded by the rhythm section's tight pocket.

There are also other jewels to be discovered like "Looking Back" and "One For Mulgrew" a tune dedicated to the great pianist Mulgrew Miller. The track possesses a flowing elegance colored by rich harmonies from vocalist Christie Dashiell and fervent statements from Allyn Johnson, Winther and Reuben Rogers' probing arco. What comes across so lucidly in *Refuge in Sound* is the quality of the music's sound. As Winther so eloquently comments "For me everything I play on my horn comes from my sound and I think that sound is what makes us identifiable as musicians." This is most definitely the case throughout the recording and heard in "Tell Me Your Truth" a gorgeous ballad that speaks to Winther's idea about not being afraid of saying what you have to say, listening and letting others take part. Its songlike attributes, the band's interaction and deep phrasing from Winther's horn create a simply rapturous listening experience. Other highlights include the street-edged vibe of "Blues Life" and the beautiful exchange between Winther and Allyn Johnson in "The Sleeping Giant". From beginning to end *Refuge in Sound* is an engaging recording filled with melodious purpose from the masterful Christian Winther.

Record Release events:

- Manship Theater. Baton Rouge, LA. February 17th. 7.30pm
- Snug Harbor Jazz, New Orleans, LA. Saturday, March 5th. 8.00 and 10.00



Christian Winther-Saxophone
Allyn Johnson-Piano
Mike Moreno-Guitar (Tracks 1,2,4)
Reuben Rogers-Bass
Billy Williams Jr.-Drums
Christie Dashiell-Vocal (Track 3)

Street Date: March 7th, 2016

Artist: Christian Winther

Title: *Refuge In Sound*

Label: Sound Perspective Music

UPC:888295385114



1. *Refuge In Sound* 4:50 (Christian Winther)
2. *Looking Back* 8:06 (Christian Winther)
3. *One For Mulgrew* 5:35 (Christian Winther)
4. *Outsider* 8:05 (Christian Winther)
5. *Tell Me Your Truth* 4:26 (Christian Winther)
6. *Blues Life* 4:43 (Christian Winther)
7. *The Sleeping Giant* 6:36 (Christian Winther)
8. *Tune For Trane* 7:09 (Christian Winther)

PRESS:

- "This album marks his rise as another promising tenor saxophonist among the ranks of well-schooled young jazz musicians." Owen Cordle - JazzTimes
- "While swinging is often at the forefront, a refreshing element is the ease of Winther's moves both to more free ranging realms and while he glances back to the music's tradition." Geraldine Wyckoff - Offbeat
- "Christian Winther improvises with a soulful, hard-bop edge, reveling in the joyous traditions associated with his instrument". John Barron - allaboutjazz

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Available for interviews

