**Andy Herrmann Quartet „Sincerity“ / Info 2023**

The quartet around the Munich-based pianist and composer Andy Herrmann with guitarist Samuel Leipold, double bassist Arne Huber and drummer Bastian Jütte exists since 2016 and is based on international New York-style jazz and European elements, with their complex harmonies and unconventional chord progressions. From the artistic point of view, it is roughly in line with Pat Metheny, Lyle Mays and Aaron Parks. "Sincerity" - sincerity - is the title of the latest album released by "Unitrecords". And this title keeps what it promises, namely honest sound, solid, understandable and accessible to all. Here Herrmann shows once again that mass appeal and jazz aspirations need not be diametrically opposed. Herrmann's idiosyncratic compositions oscillate between sustained melodies and a sometimes cool, sometimes dreamy modern jazz, which is constantly supplied with new momentum by the grippingly acting rhythm duo. The quartet is rich in detail and finely tuned to one another, melding into a conspiratorial unit from which the soloists emerge as a matter of course and captivate the listener.

**Andy Herrmann** (piano / composition) discovered his passion for music at an early age. As a child he improvised on his parents' piano and became enthusiastic about modern (jazz) sounds. As a teenager he played in various rock, pop and jazz bands, for which he also composed. During his piano studies at the "Swiss Jazz School" in Bern, he played in the quartet of the legendary US saxophonist Robin Kenyatta and has since been on stage as a sideman with national, but also international jazz greats such as Benny Golson, Alex Sipiagin, Zipflo Reinhardt, Johannes Enders, Jimmy Woode, Debbie "Sister" Sledge and many others.

After studying classical composition at the University of Music Freiburg, he first dedicated himself to his piano trio, which was nominated for the "New German Jazz Award" in 2010. In addition to teaching as a professor at the Lucerne University of Music, he then composed for his quartet, which he founded in 2016 and whose debut album "The Child In Me" quickly conquered the iTunes bestseller list worldwide. In 2020, he dedicated himself to the "Great American Songbook" and recorded his first standards record with ex-Mehldau drummer Jorge Rossy and bassist Arne Huber. His second quartet album, "Sincerity," followed in 2023 with world-class guitarist Mike Moreno. More info at:[www.andy-herrmann.com](http://www.andy-herrmann.com)

**Samuel Leipold** (guitar) grew up in Näfels (Gl) in a musical family. Since his studies at the Lucerne School of Music with Roberto Bossard, Frank Möbus, Nils Wogram and others, Leipold has continuously developed into a differentiated, independent voice of Swiss jazz. In his music, the focus is on the examination of his own artistic identity and the search for personal expression. Documented on the critically acclaimed solo CD "Viscosity" (QFTF 2021) and his current release "Ostro" (HatHut 2023), Leipold develops "a language full of details, which has nothing obtrusive, but all the more fine nuances and spontaneous developments." (U. Steinmetzger). In addition, Leipold is a versatile and active sideman: he is a member of the Swiss Jazz Orchestra, on whose two latest CDs he can be heard, plays freely improvised music, among others with Ruedi Häusermann and Marco Käppeli, is part of Martin Perret's band L'Anderer and deals with the standard jazz repertoire in regular club concerts. More info at: [www.samuelleipold.com](https://www.samuelleipold.com/)

**Arne Huber** (double bass) Arne Huber studied jazz double bass in Mannheim and classical double bass in Freiburg. Important festivals where he has performed in recent years include: London Jazz Festival, Elb Jazz Festival, Jazz Baltica, Schaffhauser Jazzfestival or Jazz Baltica,. As a bassist and/or composer he is represented on over 40 CD's, two of which received the prestigious "Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik". In addition, he can be heard on radio productions for SRF, WDR, BR, SR, HR, SRI and SWR. In 2009 he founded his own quartet with Domenic Landolf, Rainer Böhm and Jochen Rückert with whom he has recorded five CD`s in the meantime. Arne Huber teaches at the Hochschule für Musik Basel, Institut Jazz and at the Musikhochschule Mannheim. More info at: [www.arnehuber.de](http://www.arnehuber.de)

**Bastian Jütte** (Drums) ECHO Jazz award winner Bastian Jütte studied jazz drums at the music academies of Munich and Mannheim. In addition to his work as a lecturer at the Musikhochschule Würzburg, he has played at international festivals such as the Northsea Jazz Festival, La Villette Paris, Yokohama Jazzpromenade, Jazz Baltica, Musica Viva Festival, Münchner Klaviersommer, Montreux Jazz Festival, Jazzlines Munich, Elbjazz Festival, Jazztage Dresden, Leipziger Jazztage, Jazz an der Donau, Theaterhausfestival Stuttgart.

Tours have taken him to countries such as Japan, Indonesia, USA, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, India, Georgia, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Poland, Czech Republic, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, France, Spain, Malta, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Sweden.

Bastian Jütte can now be heard on over 90 CDs and has released five albums of his own as a bandleader. He is a member of numerous formations and has worked with musicians such as Seamus Blake, David Binney, Rick Margitza, Vincent Herring, Maria Schneider, Nguyên Lê, Don Friedman, Ack von Rooyen, Michael Wollny, Johannes Enders, Adrian Mears, Frank Möbus, Klaus Doldinger, Jiggs Wigham and the SWR Big Band.

He has already received the "New German Jazz Award" twice, in 2010 with the "Tim Allhoff Trio" and in 2016 with the "Bastian Jütte Quartet". In 2013 he was awarded the ECHO Jazz in the category "Drummer of the Year National". More info at: [www.bastianjuette.com](http://www.bastianjuette.com)