

HIGH DEFINITION QUARTET (PL)

Mateusz Śliwa tenor sax
Piotr Orzechowski 'Pianohooligan' piano
Alan Wykpiśz double bass
Grzegorz Palka drums

High Definition Quartet is one of the most interesting and award-winning Polish jazz ensembles of the younger generation. Its originality and musical freshness are well-received in Poland and abroad – the quartet has won an array of the highest laurels at prestigious jazz festivals and competitions, including the most valuable of all – **First Prize at Jazz Hoeilaart 2011 in Belgium**.

The ensemble musicians are also **winners of prestigious individual competitions**, among them such events as the Montreux Jazz Solo Piano Competition 2011 in Switzerland (Piotr Orzechowski) and Bass2012 Copenhagen in Denmark (Alan Wykpiśz). The quartet has to its credit a **collaboration with jazz trumpet giant Randy Brecker**, as part of which they have toured Poland (2012) and the Persian Gulf countries (2013).

The quartet took part in a **musical residency at the Manhattan School of Music in New York** (2013) after **its debut release – Hopasa** (EmArcy Records/Universal, 2013). The disc received excellent reviews by the most renowned jazz journalists in Poland and became an **Album of the Year 2013** according to the most opinion forming jazz magazines in Poland.

Two years later the band recorded a new album titled **Bukoliki** (For Tune, 2015) that again was called the best disc of the year 2015. This programme is Orzechowski arrangement of Witold Lutosławski music and was performed successfully at the biggest festivals in Poland and abroad, among others Jazz Utsav in Delhi / India; Rochester Jazz Festival / USA; Edmonton Jazz Festival / Canada, Ubud Jazz Festival (Bali-Indonesia), as well as at famous clubs such as Bohemian Caverns (Washington), or Opus Jazz (Budapest – Hungary).

The band's newest program titled **The Forefather's Eve** that is an unprecedented meeting of two musical worlds – acoustic improvised music with contemporary electronic music – is due to be released in 2018 by Universal.

High Definition is one of the most incredible bands if not the most incredible group I have ever played with, and since I have been in the music business for almost fifty years, that is a really strong recommendation. I am sure they will go on to become world famous musicians both individually and as a group!

Randy Brecker (trumpet, US)

www.highdefinitionquartet.com

PRESS:

The transposition and expansion of the 'Bukoliki' piece for the jazz quartet provided rhythmically complex, highly energetic, and dynamic music with sharp changes of mood and temperature.

Henning Bolte | All About Jazz

If 20th-century composer Igor Stravinsky were alive today and leading a small jazz ensemble, it would sound like this – rhythmically precise, harmonically exotic, and far more interested in sound textures than in catchy melodies.

Daniel J. Kushner | Rochester City Newspaper

A quintessence of Modern Jazz in every respect.

Adam Baruch | Polish Jazz Blogspot

From the very first notes heard on this album it becomes immediately apparent that this is one of the best pieces of music produced in the Jazz sphere this year, not only in Poland, but worldwide. The intensity, elegance, flair and above all European aesthetic is omnipresent here, creating a true artistic masterpiece!

It is brilliant and deserves to be heard by every music connoisseur on this planet, before the barbarians take the world over or our idea of Culture implodes upon itself. Absolutely essential!

Adam Baruch | Polish Jazz Blogspot