

NEWSPAPER ANNOUNCEMENT

It all started in Paul's poultry house outside Ormslev. The year was 1991. Here the foundation for East Coast Jazz Band was made.

For long time the old fellows from Cotton Club Jazzband Niels Barfoed and Paul Engberg, had infested the music scene of Jutland and now the dream orchestra was to be realized!

One thing characterized the band from the beginning: The desire for playing good music and deliver good entertainment more than please narrow style ideas. The inspiration came from Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Count Basie and all the other old. Added jazz of the 30's New Orleans and a little of the 40's and 50's Chicago Blues.

Today the orchestra is still playing a broad range of the best within jazz, swing and blues. Mixed with evergreens in new and beautiful arrangements.

Known as persuasive ensemble music spiced up with extraordinary soli. Played with real enthusiasm and a musical desire, which can wake up any audience.

The orchestra has played in all of Denmark. At festivals, in jazz clubs, private arrangements. Always good for a swinging evening for people who likes to dance. But never playing and working better than now.

East Coast Jazz Band has released two review praised CDs: "It Might as Well be Spring" and "Swinging the Blues".

*"But do you want to listen to really integrated swinging qualityjazz, perhaps you should come around Århus and listen to East Coast Jazzband.
-Jazzspecial"*

After the concert in support for Århus Jazzklub in Musikhuset in Århus, in November 2005, Jyllands Posten wrote:

" East Coast Jazzband is one of the best traditional jazz orchestras in town, and it lived up to its fame."

Through the years a long list of skilled musicians has been a part of East Coast Jazz Band: Åge Mortensen, Peter "Laffe" Christensen, Eskil V. Holten, Nikolai Bøgelund, Rasmus Stenholm, Birgitte Laugesen, Gunnar Lautrup.....

In 2007 the average age of the orchestra decreased dramatically when the singer Esther and the pianist Esben joined the band. And we experienced a fantastic inspiration and an explosion of musicality.

The poultry house outside Ormslev has changed into Pengberg Studiet, the old fashioned tape recorder has been replaced by top modern digital equipment, but the two old friends continue the musical journey.

Esther Maria Brakl, vocal:

From childhood Esther was introduced to the world of jazz through her musical family. She started early and performed in the good classic musicals: Showboat, The Sound of Music and South Pacific. In 2003 she was part of a jazz trio with Ole Ulvedal and Ole Bech and furthermore she has song as guest in many other connections. Her vocal has been described as a mixture of Billie Holliday and Astrud Gilberto, who she is also deeply inspired by, just as Bessie Smith, Ella Fitzgerald and the nearly unknown Rita Reys has been idols. Esther's approach to music is "learning by doing". The result is a vocal with a nice rhythmic feeling - a vocal which will be heard more in the future.

Niels Barfod: Alt-, tenor-, bass- and soprano saxophone and flute:

Niels has been an active part of music life in Århus in all genres. Det Beskidte dusin, Århus Symfoniorkester, Cotton Club, just to mention a few. He has played with the great Big Bands in Århus: Peder Pedersens og Klüvers and Finn Odderskov Festival Band. He has participated as a soloist at rhythmic choir concerts with the choir Nevertheless and has throughout the years played with, among others, Stuff Smith, Thad Jones, Zoot Sims, Poul Dissing, Dirch Passer and many more.

Storm Kleist, trombone:

In spite of his young age, he is playing with a virtuosity and feeling, which others only reach after a long life (if they reach it). Occasionally he also blows the trumpet or burst into song. For a number of years he has been a member of Klüvers Big Band and Finn Odderskov's Festival Band. After finishing an academy of music education, Storm is teaching and playing in most of Jutland.

Esbén Svitzer Yates, piano:

The pianist who simply can't sit still, when he is playing. He is educated from Berklee College of Music in Boston and he is active in a wide range of orchestras, in which the sound of jazz is a part. The Hack Pack, Bigbandet Unoderne, Upstairs Bigband and the ecological cozy pop band Natsværmer could be mentioned among others.

Paul Engberg Pedersen, drums:

Conductor and proprietor of Pengberg Studio. He and Niels Barfoed launched East Coast Jazzband back in '91. He began as drummer in Ringkøbing Big Band. Swings the sticks in Bad Habits and has played with Jazzband, Cotton Club Jazzband, West 58' Street Stompers, Lime River band, just to mention a few.

Poul Nyholm, double-bass:

He has performed in all from Jyske Telegrafregiments Orkester and Aarhus Oliefabriks Strygeorkester to smaller and bigger jazz arrangements: Viborg Bigband, AC Bigband, FM Big Band, Århus, Terkel Steens Trio, Jazz Treatz, Jazzjyderne, Jacinto Ballroom Jazzband, and as substitute in a number of jazz bands and as accompanist at choir concerts with the choir "Nevertheless" and Risskov Koret.