

Monkeybar

Dear You

Parallell PA 013-2 / Musikklosen

Steinar Nickelsen - keyboards and vocal
Erik Nylander - drums og drum machine

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www.monkeybar.no



Monkeybar is a Norwegian band that have worked for several years with developing their music before they finally released it on this CD. It is a rather uncommon mix of alternative pop, jazz, techno blended in their personal way. Their background as jazz musician adds some improvisation and experimentation, as well as the unwillingness to settle in one style. This has made a quite varied album, while making it stick together by their sounds and musical identity. Monkeybar plays with a smile on their face which adds a lighter touch to some of their more serious compositions.

They included words and vocals on some tunes. It starts off fairly simply with the two word lyric on the song "Monkeybar".

The song "Dear You" was written by Nickelsen when he was about to move. Sitting in a near empty apartment with only some moving boxes and a keyboard left, he wanted to give something back to his beloved home.

Boats have a mystique, especially combined with the sea, that brings us back to the basic of nature. The sea and the land are both total while fulfilling each other. It can be hard to chose.

"Lascia Ch'io Pianga" was inspired by Lars von Triers movie "Antichrist" where this song is used in "Prologue". Monkeybar wanted to make their own version, even though it seemed impossible to make anything more beautiful than Tuva Semmingsen baroque version.

And towards the end; a song about the trees. It was written as a contrast to some of the busy instrumentals, and filled with some words from a life.

Steinar Nickelsen: Was elected Young Norwegian jazz musician of the year 2002. Known as one of scandinavian leading B3 organ players. Have also developed a passion for analog synths. Have played and recorded Lage Lund, Ari Hoenig, Krested Osgood, Jacob Fischer, Excess Luggage, Jupiter, Pål Thowsen Trio, Peloton.

Erik Nylander: From Sweden, widely used drummer now living in Norway. Known from the bands of Ola Kvernbergs band, Kobert, Kirsti Huke, and Tore Brunborg Trio.