

Mads Tolling releases debut album, “Speed of Light”

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In July 2007 jazz violinist Mads Tolling recorded a ground breaking album entitled “Speed of Light”. The album features eleven tunes, whereof ten are recorded in a trio format with violin, guitar and bass mostly composed by Tolling and one is a solo violin version of Miles Davis’ “Blue in Green”.

As I had a chance to listen to the music, I soon realized how far this album stretches stylistically. From chamber jazz to through composed contrapuntal material to heavy rocklike grooved out parts to at times flirting with the elements of free jazz, this album has it all. “Speed of Light” is full of creativity and improvisation performed by a two time GRAMMY Award-Winner and two rising stars in the world of jazz.

“When I write music I always have the melody in mind,” Mads Tolling says. “If the melody makes sense the harmony, the counterpoint and the rhythm seem to have a way of working themselves out. I try to write what my inner fan wants to hear, and then I hope that other people will like it too. If people can hum along to a melody of mine, it makes me happy!”

“The title, “Speed of Light” came to me as I thought of the impulsive and creative side of playing music. Speed of Light could refer to the phenomenal technical abilities of the players on this recording. More importantly is it that when we play we take off on a journey that takes us by the speed of light to another place. We are instantly transformed. The music is alive and constantly moving,” Tolling says.

Tolling continues: “The buskin idea on the CD cover takes me back to my childhood, where my sister and I would play on the streets of Copenhagen, Denmark for people to throw money in our violin cases. Playing music in all kinds of settings always intrigued me. There is no more universal setting than in a public place like a train station. The music speaks for itself and can be enjoyed by people in all walks of life.”

For more information about Mads Tolling, please visit www.madstolling.com.