

Manfred Paul Weinberger Nonet

Transformation

For this collection, I have gathered pieces from our November 2024 tour of Mexico. Two recent compositions, written after the tour but inspired by that journey, complete the selection of songs on this album. Art is an expression of human feeling, thought, and action, that emerges through a process guided by the heart. What ultimately becomes perceptible to the listener takes shape in the act of creation itself, during which the individual artist is continually making decisions. The human struggle to give form to what we experience and feel—and to communicate through this work—is a fundamental need within us. The search for artistic expression can therefore be understood as an attempt to transform through the creative act what has been experienced, felt, and reflected upon. In this transformation, empathy plays a central role.

With Transformation, I present four “composed interpretations,” whose point of departure is songs from the Great American Songbook. Many of these remarkable songs—drawn from nearly a century of musical history—have grown very dear to me through years of engagement with them. It has long been my wish to honor selected works from this repertoire and to pay tribute to their significance in my own way. One of the pieces in this collection is a composition by the young pianist and composer Anna Maurer, which I first encountered through my work with the Upper Austrian Jazz Orchestra.

Completing the album are three of my own original compositions. I would like to thank my musical companions for the valuable time we spent preparing this project, as well as for the two days we spent together recording in the studio. As a collective, the ensemble succeeds in presenting even complex musical ideas with clarity and transparency, filled with personal inspiration and the commitment of each individual musician.

Lineup:

Manfred Paul Weinberger - trumpet, flugelhorn
Christian Maurer - soprano saxophone
Andreas Lachberger - tenor saxophone
Jürgen Haider - baritone saxophone
Peter Nickel - trombone
Kurt Erlmoser - guitar
Helmar Hill - piano
Christian Wendt - double bass
Ewald Zach - drums



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Tracklisting

01. T-Line to Braintree (6:35)
02. Strongly as in the Evening Sunset (7:23)
03. Call for Blues (9:28)
04. Lullaby (5:25)
05. Solaralos (6:21)
06. Heaven of Lark (8:57)
07. In Your Own Sweet Way (9:55)
08. Being Ali (6:34)



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