

FiDO plays ZAPPA

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In 1987, bass player Pascal Grünenfelder was immediately captivated by hearing Frank Zappa's ironic jaw crushing and intricate rock-fusion for the first time, as he was confronted with the compositional geniality and preposterous humour of such songs as "Zomby Woof", "Don't Eat The Yellow Snow" or "Dinah-Moe Humm".

Overwhelmed by musical brilliance and the disrespectful ironic concept of the master of all fusions, the bassist began to explore Zappa's universe with ears full of wonder. Inspired by the experimental soundscapes of the early Mothers Of Invention, the colourful jazzrock imagery of the 70ies, the pompous 80ies rock big bands with Wackerman, Bozzio and Colaiuta, and the modern orchestral works of a Varese-admiring Zappa, the decision was made to reinterpret selected gems from Frank's sheer endless repertoire with the help of a bunch of like-minded musicians.

Grünenfelders ten piece rocking teenage combo invites you to a breakneck big dipper ride through the big Z's nutty cosmos, celebrates obscure polyphone sounding stories of talking dogs, stinking feet, sad eskimos and all kinds of curiosities of life. Unafraid of unorthodox handling of the compositions, the ten musicians interpret Zappa's classics with virtuosity and verve for the present time and answer his question "Does Humor Belong In Music?" with a zealous and resounding "YES!" Improvisational freespace is utilised shamelessly, stylistic frontiers are broken down, the musical multiplicity and hilarious humour of Zappa's work is exploited to the max.

Discography

- FiDOplaysZAPPA on the Dental Floss, August 2007, DVD
- Live @ Sudhaus Basel, September 2006, 19 Songs, Limited Handmade Red-Sofa Edition, CD

Lineup

Dave Muscheidt – Vocals
Oli Friedli – Piano, Keyboards
Steff Strittmatter – Guitar, Vocals
Martin Medimorec – Vibrafon, Marimba, Percussion
Pascal Grünenfelder – Bass, Vocals
Remy Sträuli - Drums, Vocals
Dave Blaser – Trumpet
Alex Hilbe – Alto & Baritone Saxofon
Ueli Pletscher – Tenor Saxofon, Flute
Christof Huber – Trombone