

**Hugh Steinmetz:**

Composer, trumpet player, conductor/bandleader, M.D., born 15.02.1943.

Started playing trumpet in 1957 and received lessons from Knud Hovaldt (1<sup>ST</sup> trumpet and solo trumpet with The Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra and The Royal Symphony Orchestra) and Arnvid Meyer (esteemed jazz trumpet player). Played traditional jazz and swing in various groups, and formed in 1960 band with Franz Beckerlee alto sax. The band started out playing Miles Davis/John Coltrane inspired neo-bop, but was soon attracted by Ornette Coleman's music and developed later a very personal free form style with Niels Harrit sax, Steffen Andersen bass and Bo Thrige Andersen drums. Under the name "The Contemporary Jazz Quartet" they recorded the LP "Action" in 1964 with Sunny Murray on drums, and the LP "Third Stream Music" with classical composer, pianist and performance-artist Niels Viggo Bentzon in 1965. The group performed at the Comblain-la-Tour international jazz festival in 1964, and at various radiobroadcasts and TV-shows in Denmark.

Became in 1964 a member of "The Vogel Brothers Sextet" and worked at the same time as composer and soloist with "The Danish Radio Jazz Group" (big band). Participated as composer and soloist on the LP "The Radio Jazz Group" in 1965 together with Erik Moseholm and Ray Pitts and received same year the jazz-legacy from the Ministry of Culture.

Was in 1966 elected "Danish Jazz Musician of the Year" by The Danish Jazz Academy and recorded same year the LP "Nu" ("Now") under his own name with Niels Harrit and Karsten Vogel saxes, Per Aage Brandt piano, Steffen Andersen bass and Bo Thrige Andersen drums. Participated in radiobroadcasts and concerts with Don Cherry, Archie Shepp, Gary Peacock, Sunny Murray, Rashied Ali, John Tchicai, Louis Hjulmand, Niels Henning Ørsted Pedersen and many others. Played in 1966-67 with Peter Belli and "Seven Sounds" (soul-band) with Niels Harrit, Peter Ingemann and Willy Jønsson, and later with "Melvis and His Gentlemen" with among others Erling Kroner ("Melvis Anthology 3", Danish Radio Concert recordings from 1967 with Melvis and "Hugh Steinmetz Octet", 2005). Received in 1967 the newspaper Ekstra Bladet's Rock-award. Recorded the LP "T.C.J.Q." in 1968 with "The Contemporary Jazz Quintet", where the group experimented with electric amplified wind instruments (other recordings from 1966-67 with this group are released by Columbia/Sony in 2000 under the title "The Contemporary Jazz Quintet Actions 1966-67" and Atavista/Cadence (Unheard Music Series) in 2005, and the recordings from 1964 with Sunny Murray and from 1968 was reissued as a double CD "Action, Action" by SteepleChase in 2000).

Formed in 1967 the group "Cadentia Nova Danica" together with John Tchicai, Karsten Vogel and Max Brüel saxes, Kim Menzer trombone, Finn Von Eyben and Steffen Andersen basses, Giorgio Musoni and Bo Thrige Andersen drums. The group performed inter alia in concerts in Wigmore Hall (London) and Henie/Onstad Museum of Modern Art (Norway). It recorded in 1968 the LP "John Tchicai and Cadentia Nova Danica" and in 1969 the LP "Afrodisiaca" (with compositions by John Tchicai and Hugh Steinmetz). Received in 1967 a legacy from the Ministry of Culture's Art Foundation. In 1969, "Cadentia Nova Danica" (now 26 musicians) was hired as a regular orchestra under The Danish Radio with John Tchicai and Hugh Steinmetz as composers and conductors and with regularly monthly broadcasts.

Participated in 1969 in Bremen (Germany) in the recording of the LP "European Echoes" (reissued on CD by Atavistic, Unheard Music Series) with an international orchestra conducted by Manfred Schoof, and later same year in Baden-Baden in the recording of the LP "Gittin'to Know Y'all" with an international orchestra conducted by Lester Bowie (reissued on CD by MPS/Polydor). Was in 1969 a member of "Niels Husums Septet" with Poul Hindberg, Keld Juul Nielsen, Torben Munk, Bjarne Rostvold og Ib Lund Nielsen. Worked during the end of the `60s and the beginning of the `70s with among others Peter Brötzmann and Peter Kowald at concerts in Germany, Willem Breuker, Han Bennink, Misha Mengelberg and Fred Van Hove at concerts in Holland and Belgium, John Stevens, Evan Parker, Derek Bailey and Paul Rutherford at concerts in Holland and Germany, Irene Schweizer and Pierre Favre at concerts in Copenhagen and with Claude Delcloo at concerts in Paris.

Toured in Denmark with John Tchicai, Misha Mengelberg, Han Bennink and Pierre Dørge, and worked on the Danish scene with Johnny Dyani ("Witchdoctors Son" and "United Nations"), Giorgio Musoni, Ivan Krill, Michael Schou, Steen Claesson, Jesper Zeuten, Pierre Dørge and Lasse Lunderskov. Recorded with "Burnin Red Ivanhoe" 1969, Tom Bailey 1971 (lp "Tom Bailey") and Mickey Baker and Delta Blues Band on the LP "Tales From The Underdog" in 1975 with Niels Harrit, Holger Laumann and Flemming Quist Møller.

Received in 1970 a legacy from The Danish State Art Foundation.

Had to give up trumpet playing in 1976 after a complicated surgery of the sinus, but started in 1982 a study in musical science at The Institute of Musical Science under The University of Copenhagen. Started in 1986 a cautious retrain as a musician and worked with "The University Big Band" and "Jeppe Tangs Quintet" and "Free Enterprise" with Niels Nogel plus various experimenting groups.

Graduated in 1990 with a master's degree (cand. phil.) including a final special treatise on Joseph Schillinger and his System of Musical Composition.

Worked during the `90s with various groups: "MI Big Band", "Bent Ronak Big Band", "Blue Heaven Big Band", "Ancher Grøn Big Band", "Orbit Big Band" and "DRAM Big Band", "The Vogel Brothers Quintet" and own quartets and quintets with among others Bill Buchmann, Rasmus Welling, Marko Martinovic', Nils Karlson and Simon Koppel. Worked with Christer Irgens Møller, Peter Friis Nielsen, Peter Ole Jørgensen and Michael Nielsen in the group "Spanner In the Works" and with the composers pool "SKRÆP".

Formed in 1993 the ensemble "Hugh Steinmetz Octet" and recorded with this band the CD "City Music" (own compositions) in 1994. Formed in 1996 the 17 piece orchestra "Communio Musica" and recorded the CD's "Gate of Changes" and "Special Alloy" (both with own compositions). The band performed at the Copenhagen City of Culture 1996, in the major art galleries Øksnehallen and Arken and at the Copenhagen Jazz Festival 1998. Participated also on the CD's "Taylors Universe", "Taylors Universe, Pork" and "Heart Disc" under conduction of Robin Taylor.

Was In 1999 a member of the cultural project The Danish Wave with "Orbit Big Band", "The Tritonus Choir" and Jesper Thilo under performances of Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert in Washington and New York. Worked with own group "Hugh Steinmetz Quintet" with Karsten Vogel altosax, Marko Martinovic piano, Jens Meldgaard bass and Simon Koppel drums. Worked in Copenhagen with the American avant-garde alto saxophonist Luther Thomas,

recorded with Cim Meyer, Søren Eriksen, Jimmy Roger Petersen and Ole Rømer and participated in the performance of the work "Entity" (experimenting music for chamber orchestra) by Vagn E. Olsson in The Second Opera. Member of the Danish Radio's "DRAM big band".

Worked in 2000 with Luther Thomas in the bands "Saxmaniacs" and "Sax-machine" and at concerts in New York. Formed the sextet "The Jazz Gang" with Luther Thomas alto sax, Pascal Jamgotchian tenor sax and Marko Martinovic piano. Worked with Robin Taylor and Karsten Vogel in "Taylor's Free Universe" and participated on the CD-recording "Edge of Darkness".

Formed in 2002 "Hugh Steinmetz Quartet" with Luther Thomas, Ole Rømer drums and Jimmi Roger Petersen (later Nils Davidsen) bass. The group had its debut in a concert under the artists union "Kanten" in "Huset" in May 2002.

Worked from 1999 to 2002 on the two five-part suites "Traces" (with the movements: "Turbulence and Departure", "Travels and Destinies", "Ties and Freedom", "Talks and Friendship" and "Tears and Happiness") for "Communio Musica" enhanced with strings, horns and extra woodwinds, and "Human Ghettos" (with the movements: "Atoms", "Forms", "Water", "Life" and "Ashes") for conventional symphony orchestra enhanced with jazz-nonet.

Has written for string orchestra: "Autumn Colours", choir: "O Nightingale" (text by William Wordsworth), "ToneArt Ensemble": "Modus Vivendi", "ToneArt Workshop": "Fiesta De Los Locos" and in 2006 "Letters of Silent Life" for experimental vocal/workshop to lyrics by Anna-Lise Malmros.

Is a member of DJBFA (Danish Jazz, Beat and Folk Authors) and the composer's organization ToneArt.

Received legacies from The Danish State Art Foundation in the years 1997-98-99-2000-01-02-03-04 and 2006.

Recorded in 2003 the albums "Mor er den bedste i verden" with the group "Giro 413" (Søren Eriksen tn, Hugh Steinmetz tp, Cim Meyer guit, Jimmi Roger Pedersen bass and Ole Rømer drums) and "Janus Head" with "Hugh Steinmetz Quartet" (Luther Thomas as, Hugh Steinmetz tp, Nils Davidsen bass and Ole Rømer drums).

Performed at Copenhagen Jazz Festival 2004 with the re-united "Cadentia Nova Danica" (John Tchicai tn, Karsten Vogel as, Hugh Steinmetz tp, Kim Menzer tb, Klaus Menzer drms, Peter Ole Jørgensen drms and Nils Davidsen bass) as well as with "Hugh Steinmetz Quartet" with Luther Thomas.

Performed Dec.-04 with "ToneArt Workshop-Ensemble" at a concert with exclusively first performances (Thomas Cauldry tp, Hugh Steinmetz tp, Martin Cholewa hrn, Peter Dahlgren tb, Niels Gerhardt tuba, Stefan Pasborg drums and Niels Præstholt bass).

Performed at Copenhagen Jazz Festival 2005 with "ToneArt Ensemble" and "Hugh Steinmetz Quintet" featuring John Tchicai (Maj-Britt Kramer piano, Jeppe Skovbakke bass and Stefan Pasborg drums). Performed Nov. 2005 in Copenhagen Jazzhouse with "ToneArt Ensemble" during "ToneArt Biennale". Formed in autumn 2005 the group "VogelSteinmetz Quartet" with Karsten Vogel alto sax, Lars Juul drums and Kasper Tagel bass.

Participated in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 in various performances of John Tchicai's Pentecost Mass "A Contemporary Pentecost Mass" in various churches in Copenhagen and Roskilde (With John Tchicai, Thomas Agergaard, Erling Kroner, Peter Ole Jørgensen, organ and choir).

Participated 2006 in the recording of Robin Taylor's CD "Terra Nova".

Reunited "Hugh Steinmetz Sextet" with Karsten Vogel, Niels Harrit, Per Aage Brandt, Kasper Tagel and Lars Juul for concerts in Salon K ("The

House", ToneArt) and Literaturhaus (Kanten) under Copenhagen Jazz Festival 2006. The group performed two new suites by Hugh Steinmetz "The Cherry Blossom" and "Take Care of Business" in memory of Don Cherry (who would have been 70 this year). These suites were recorded in June 2007 for broadcasting in The Danish Radio (and received financial support for later issuing on CD by APG).

Performed at Copenhagen Jazz Festival 2007 with "VogelSteinmetz Quartet". Composed in 2007 "Man and Beast" to lyrics by Anna-Lise Malmros. The piece was performed by "ToneArt Workshop Orchestra" with Sissel Vera Peterson (vocal) in December 2007 at the gallery "Den Frie" in Copenhagen. Composed 2008 "Pentecost Picnic" to "United Notions Saxquartet" plus Marilyn Mazur (performed in Salon K July 2008) plus eight new compositions for sextet (performed July 2008 by "Hugh Steinmetz Sextet" during Copenhagen Jazz Festival).

Played concerts in autumn 2008 in Unicorn/Jazzkælderens and Toldkammeret/Elsinore with "Hugh Steinmetz Sextet", and performed with "Hugh Steinmetz Quintet" at "The Bent Jaedig Foundation Award Celebration" in Copenhagen Jazzhouse and at "The Gelsted-Kirk-Scherig Foundation Award Celebration" in Kanonhallen.