

A black and white close-up portrait of a man with a shaved head and a short beard, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on his face and deep shadows. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

EGBERT DERIX
PIANIST-COMPOSER-TEACHER

BIOGRAPHY



about **me**

EGBERT DERIX

° 1969

Horst-Nederland

Pianist, composer, arranger and teaches at Fontys Rock Academy in Tilburg. He is co-founder of the Searing Quartet.

He studied at the Maastricht Conservatory (The Netherlands) and with David Berkman and Steve Kuhn in New York.

Derix collaborates with a lot of different musicians. Including the British singer-songwriter Iain Matthews, John Helliwell (Supertramp), Eric Vloeimans, Ton Engels , Steve Hogarth (Marillion), Leo Janssen (Metropole Orchestra) , Renée van Wegberg and Fish.

In 2002 Egbert received the prize for 'Best Original Composition' at the North Sea Jazz Festival for his composition 'She isn't like you'. That same year Derix' Searing Quartet was rewarded with the first 'Jerry van Rooyen Award'.

In 2012 he received, along with Gerard van Maasakkers, the 'Annie M.G. Schmidt prize' for best theatrical song, for their song 'Zomaar onverwacht'.

Egbert played at the North Sea Jazz Festival and gives concerts in Europe and the United States. He has also released several albums with mostly originals.

In 2015 Egbert's book "De Muze brengt mij" was published. A collection of stories in which music is the common thread.



‘Why Falco?’

That is a question I’ve been asked quite a lot since I started my crowdfunding campaign for my first solo piano album. Well, Austrian musician and poet Hans Hölzel chose ‘Falco’ as his artistic alter ego. I heard Falco’s music for the first time in 1982 while I was lying in my bed at the pediatric ward of the hospital in Venray, a town in The Netherlands. Falco’s song ‘Der Kommissar’ was played regularly on the hospital radio.

‘Der Kommissar’ had an atmosphere that immediately appealed to me. Authentic, fresh, cheeky, cocky, funny and very musical. The person Hans Hölzel (alias Falco) fascinated me. Not only was he a skilled songwriter and singer, he was a talented bass player as well. He studied at the Vienna Conservatory for a while, and near the end of his life taught at ‘Die Schule für Dichtung’ in Vienna.

Falco’s lyrics and poetry are among my favourite literary works. A stunning blend of German, Viennese, English and Italian. Peppered with puns, effective one -liners and beautiful insights.

After seeing a movie about his life, I wrote a piece for piano and titled it ‘Falco’. That song was also the motivation to write more new piano music. That’s why I decided to name this album ‘Falco’. Out of admiration, gratitude, love and as a tribute to a very special musician and poet.

Egbert Derix, juni 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

2015



Following the release of their albums 'Joy Mining' and 'In The Now' on the American label Omnivore Recordings Iain Matthews & Egbert Derix tour California in January . In the summer they play concerts in Scotland, Wales and England. In August they are one of the headliners at the Cropredy festival.

HIGHLIGHTS

2015



Iain Matthews & Egbert Derix 02-06-2015 Painted Sky Studios Harmony, CA. ©2015 Abe Perstein



In March Egbert's book 'De Muze brengt mij' ('The Muse takes me') is published by Boekscout .

The book features autobiographical about the places and people where the music takes him.

From The Netherlands to New York and from Denmark to The Philippines. Encounters with people like Supetramp's saxplayer John Helliwell and Neil Armstrong's son Rick.



Egbert arranges the strings for Frans Pollux' album 'Neet vergaete the Bloome water gaeve. The album also has a song on it written by Pollux and Derix.

On the occasion of an exhibition and TV documentary about the work of the Maastricht painter Willy Gorissen Derix writes music to a poem by Frans Budé which was inspired by the work of Gorissen. The song 'Lied van de twee bomen' is performed by singer Baer Traa and Egbert Derix.

HIGHLIGHTS

2015



The project 'How Far' by Belgian artist Goddy Haerden along with saxophonist Leo Janssen and Egbert Derix has its premiere in November at Artsquare in Amsterdam. 'How Far' includes a photo exhibition, poetry and music which are also available as a book form and on Cd.



Furthermore this year there are concerts with Eric Vloeimans, Renée van Wegberg, Herman Verweij, Frans Pollux, Emil Szarkowicz, Noor Roelofs, Maurice Hermans, Koninklijke Harmonie Horst and Angeli.

HIGHLIGHTS

2014



The Iain Matthews & Egbert Derix albums 'Joy Mining' & 'In the Now' are released in the US by the Grammy Award winning label Omnivore Recordings.

In 2015 Iain and Egbert will tour California to promote these releases.

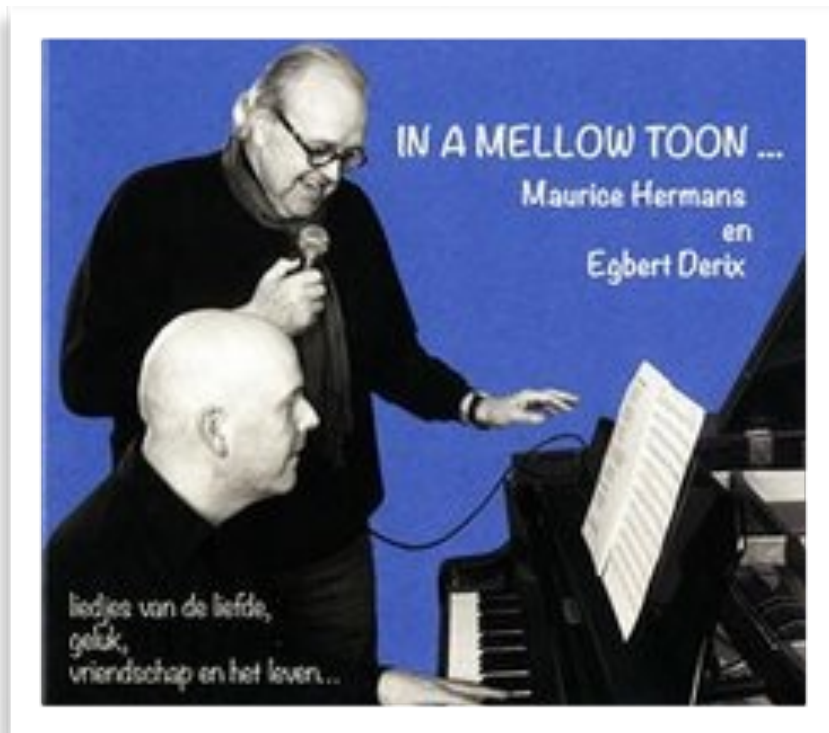




Pressphoto Iain Matthews & Egbert Derix

HIGHLIGHTS

2014



In April Maurice Hermans & Egbert Derix release their album 'In a Mellow Toon'.

Maurice is the son of legendary Dutch artist and performer Toon Hermans.

Maurice and Egbert also play theatres in The Netherlands with their program 'Rondom Toon', in which poetry and songs by Maurice and Toon, and music by Egbert, is featured.

ELIXIR DU SILENCE

'Elixir du Silence' art project with artist Goddy Haerden. An ode to all quiet areas on Earth. Egbert Derix composed the music for this project.



The album 'The Sadness of Beauty' by flutist Georges van de Ven and Egbert is released in July.

'The Sadness of beauty' contains compositions by Sir Malcolm Arnold, Astor Piazzolla, Franz Schubert, Glenn Corneille, Claude Bolling en Egbert Derix.

HIGHLIGHTS

2014



Egbert also performs with: Renée van Wegberg, Leo Janssen, Eric Vloeimans, Herman Verweij, Frans Pollux, Gerard van Maasakkers and Philharmonie Zuid, and in March Searing Quartet play a reunion concert.



Following the UK release of their album *In the Now* Iain Matthews & Egbert Derix play a two week concert tour in the UK in March. There is also a documentary about the making of *In the Now* made by director Peter Young and Olivier Hamaker.



Port Zélande 2013 and Rick Armstrong



During the Marillion Weekend in Port Zélande , early March , Egbert plays as guest with Marillion . The reason for the invitation for this Swap the Band is the release of Derix first solo album , Paintings in Minor Lila , based around Marillion music. Besides Fish and Marillion singer Steve Hogarth , the saxophonists John Helliwell (Supertramp) and Leo Janssen (Metropole Orchestra) , and Iain Matthews also contributed to this album .



At the request of Fish Egbert takes care of the string arrangements for the new Fish album A Feast of Consequences . The album is released in September.

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The last solo album by Iain Matthews , The Art of Obscurity , contains eight new Matthews / Derix songs. The Art of Obscurity will be released in early 2014 in both the UK and the U.S.

HIGHLIGHTS

2013



Egbert Derix & Iain Matthews



Egbert Derix & John Helliwell, photo: Wouter Schenk

In November, the Helliwell - Derix Quartet plays, for the third consecutive year, a series of concerts in the Netherlands and Belgium . Besides Supertramp saxophonist John Helliwell and Egbert , the band also holds Norbert Leurs (bass) , Sjoerd Rutten (drums) , and singer Joosje Jochems . There are plans for a CD and a concerttour again in 2014.

The collaboration with poet Herman Verweij resulted in a number of appearances this year, containing a combination of poetry and music. In the Nijhoff Anders project two poems by Dutch poet Martinus Nijhoff were put to music by Mike Roelofs & Egbert Derix and performed together with Noor Roelofs & Herman Verweij .

In June, the Big Band of the Royal Northern Conservatory Manchester played a concert of Supertramp songs, with John Helliwell as the soloist , and an arrangement of The Logical Song by Egbert.



Annie M.G. Schmidt prize
De La Mar Theater in Amsterdam (16 April 2012)
(photo: Jaap Reedijk)

In April Egbert and Gerard van Maasakkers receive the Annie M.G. Schmidt prize for the best theater song. They get the award for their song 'Zomaar onverwacht', a song with lyrics by Gerard van Maasakkers and music by Egbert Derix. At the award ceremony on April 16th, in the Nieuwe De La Mar theater in Amsterdam, Gerard van Maasakkers performs the song with the Metropole Orchestra. Egbert arranges the song for the Nieuw Amsterdams Klarinet Kwartet. His arrangement is performed at the Grachtenfestival and in the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam by the Nieuw Amsterdams Klarinet Kwartet together with soprano Sterre Konijn.

HIGHLIGHTS

2012



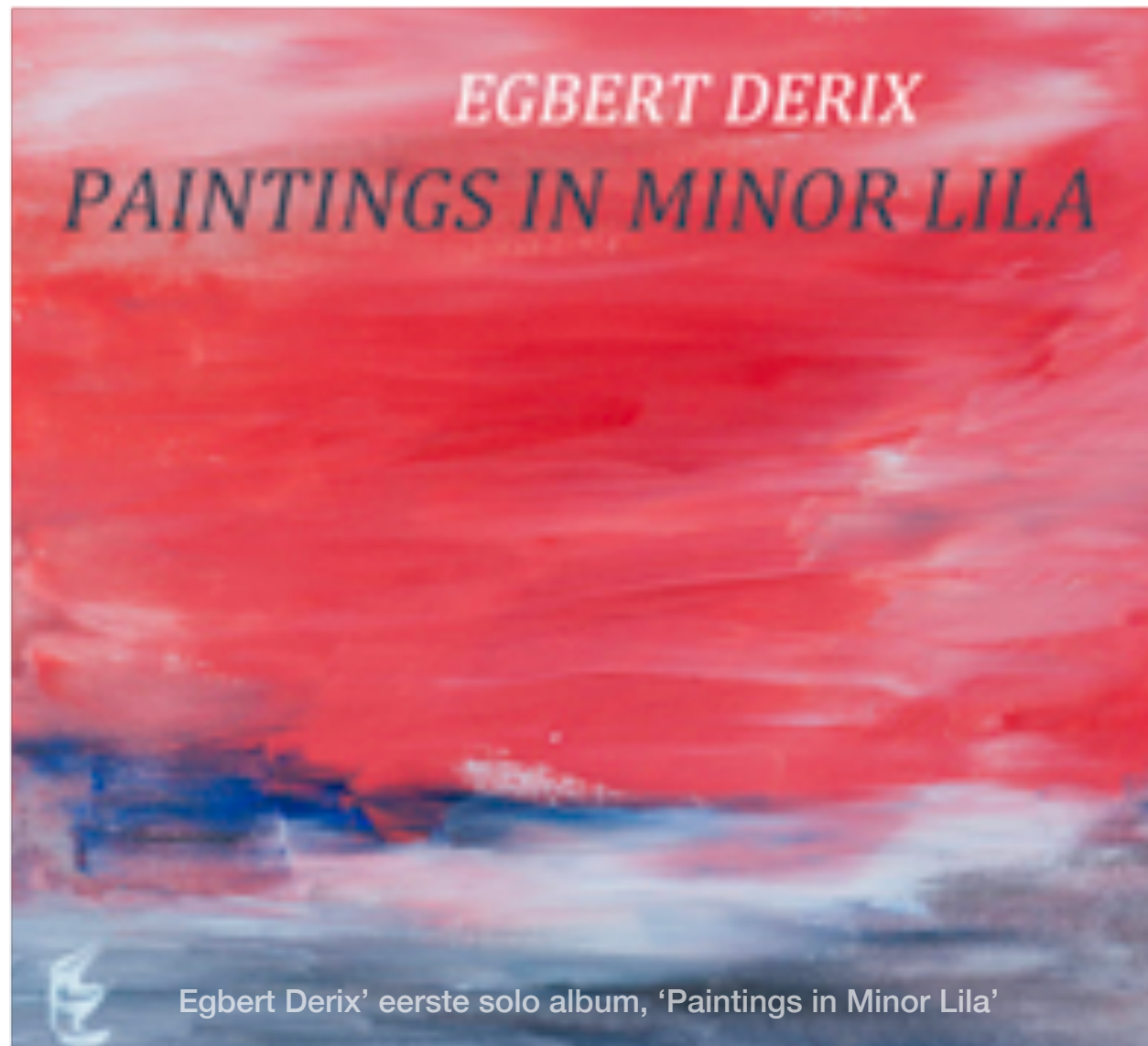
Steve Hogarth in Le Divan du Monde in Paris (January 2012)
(Photo: Sue van Rens-Scorse)

HIGHLIGHTS

2012



Iain Matthews - Egbert Derix 12-05-2012
MusicStar



Egbert Derix' eerste solo album, 'Paintings in Minor Lila'

In September Derix 'first solo album,' 'Paintings in Minor Lila', is released. The album was triggered by Egbert's passion for the music of Marillion. Both Marillion singers, Fish and Steve Hogarth contribute to the album. Iain Matthews, Sjoerd Rutten, Leo Janssen, Norbert Leurs, the Limburg String Quartet, and Supertramp saxophonist John Helliwell can also be heard on 'Paintings in Minor Lila'. The album is produced by Arno den Camp and Egbert Derix. The cd is cause for an item in the annual Top 2000 Journaal of Dutch Radio 2. Also in the new Marillion biography, 'Separated out, Redux', by Jon Collins, there is mentioning of Egbert's solo album.

In November there are five concerts in the Netherlands by Supertramp saxophonist John Helliwell with the Egbert Derix quartet, with guest singer Joosje Jochems. The concert at the Beauforhuis in Austerlitz is recorded and broadcasted by Dutch Vpro radio.

This year Derix again plays concerts with Iain Matthews in the Netherlands, UK and Germany. There is also a duo concert with trumpeter Eric Vloeimans in Cambrinus in Horst (NL). Cooperation with Vloeimans will be followed up in 2013.

The album 'In The Now' by Iain Matthews & Egbert Derix is released by Universal in March on the VERVE label. The musicians on 'In The Now' are drummer Jasper van Hulten, bassplayer Norbert Leurs, saxophonist Leo Janssen, guitarist Ton Engels, and the Limburg String Quartet. The lyrics and vocals are again by Iain Matthews and music, piano, and string arrangements by Egbert. The album is produced by Léon Bartels.



'Occasionally, having both an element of good fortune and being 'in the now', can result in something memorable.

A keepsake. On that night in Norderstedt (where the hell is Norderstedt) Egbert and I were blessed by both of these. Sure, we've had our moments of being in the zone. Some longer than others.

But this was a special performance. As our song "Restless wings" states, 'they were closer than two beatings of the same heart'. For those two hours, remarkably, we were.

This disc was meant to be. A reward, if you like, for all the heart and soul invested in being the best we can possibly be.

Mostly music from the past three years, plus a couple of reinterpreted chestnuts, make up 'That is to say'. It comes love and gratitude, from us to all of you.

With a very special thank you to Wolfgang and the crew. The rest of it I can only imagine, was providence.'

Iain Matthews, July 2012

HIGHLIGHTS

2012



Fish and Egbert Derix

Iain Matthews and Egbert Derix sign a record deal with Universal Music for the release of their new album 'In the Now'. The album will be released on the VERVE label in March 2012.

'In the Now' features drummer Jasper van Hulten, guitarist Ton Engels, Norbert Leurs on acoustic bass, saxplayer Leo Janssen, and the Limburgs Strijkkwartet.

Lyrics: Iain Matthews, music : Egbert Derix. The album is produced by Léon Bartels and Arno op den Camp also does some recording.

HIGHLIGHTS

2011



Supertramp saxophonist John Helliwell and Egbert Derix
in Cambrinus,

Release of the live cd 'Angeli in Cambrinus' , and album with sax- & clarinetplayer Leo Janssen (Metropole Orchestra).

Also a year of very inspiring musical collaborations and concerts with, amongst others, singers Renée van Wegberg & Sue van Rens, Fay Lovsky, and Supertramp saxplayer John Helliwell.

The new Gerard van Maasakkers cd and theatershow 'Lijflied' features a song by Gerard & Egbert: 'Zomaar onverwacht'.

Egbert plays a solo piano concert at the Cambrinus stage, playing the former concertgrand of the Blue Note Club in New York. The same piano he plays on 'In the Now'. Thanks to Jan Huijbers.

Miho Hazama, student at the Manhattan School of Music, arranges Derix' composition 'Exit Ego', which is performed by the Dutch Metropole Orchestra with conductor Vince Mendoza.

Derix starts to record for his upcoming solo album which will feature interpretations of the music of Marillion. A long time passion. Marillion singer Steve Hogarth contributes to one of the songs.

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HIGHLIGHTS

2010



In March the Iain Matthews-Egbert Derix cd/dvd 'Afterwords' is released. Followed by concerts in The Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, and the U.K.

The Searing Quartet play a few concert to celebrate their 15 year jubilee.

In November the duo album 'Angeli in Cambrinus' is released. A live registration with saxplayer/clarinettist Leo Janssen.

Egbert can also be heard on piano and synthesizers on the new Ton Engels album 'Alles in the Grip'



Iain Matthews & Searing Quartet appear on the Dutch tv-show 'Vrije Geluiden'. The impact is enormous: 'Joy Mining' is sold out within a week. The album is also released on the UK label Fledg'ling.

Iain Matthew, Egbert Derix, Eric Vloeimans, Mike Roelofs, and Bart Oostindie play a benefit-concert for the Beauforthuis in Austerlitz.

Derix receives a composition assignment from the Schunck* Glaspaleis in Heerlen (Netherlands). His composition 'Jirayu', inspired by the life and works of Thai artist Jirayu Rengjaras, is performed in August in Heerlen by the Searing Quartet.



Egbert Derix - Georges van Ven 21-06-2009

Apart from working with Iain Matthews, Egbert also performs with saxplayer/clarinetist Leo Janssen (Metropole Orchestra), flutist Georges van de Ven, singer-songwriter Sue van Rens, and singer Renée van Wegberg.

In this year singer-songwriter Iain Matthews from the U.K. and Egbert Derix renew their musical friendship and start writing songs together for the Iain Matthews & Searing Quartet album 'Joy Mining'.

'Joy Mining' is released on the Matrix label and produced by Léon Bartels.

The album receives high praise in the Dutch and international press and Iain Matthews & Searing Quartet, aka IMSQ, start touring.

HIGHLIGHTS

2007



In January the cd 'You'll find me' is released. The cd features songs by singer Renée van Wegberg and Egbert Derix.

The fourth cd by the Searing Quartet, 'Licence to Extend', is released in Octobre. 'Licence to Extend' contains compositions by Egbert and saxplayer Peter Hermesdorf.

Egbert plays piano and Korg Polysix synthesizer on 'Wies Merge', a new cd by singer-songwriter and guitarist Ton Engels.

In december 'On Christmas Day', a song by Renée van Wegberg and Egbert, is released as a single.

HIGHLIGHTS

2006



In January Egbert plays a few concerts with the Lydia van Dam Quartet.

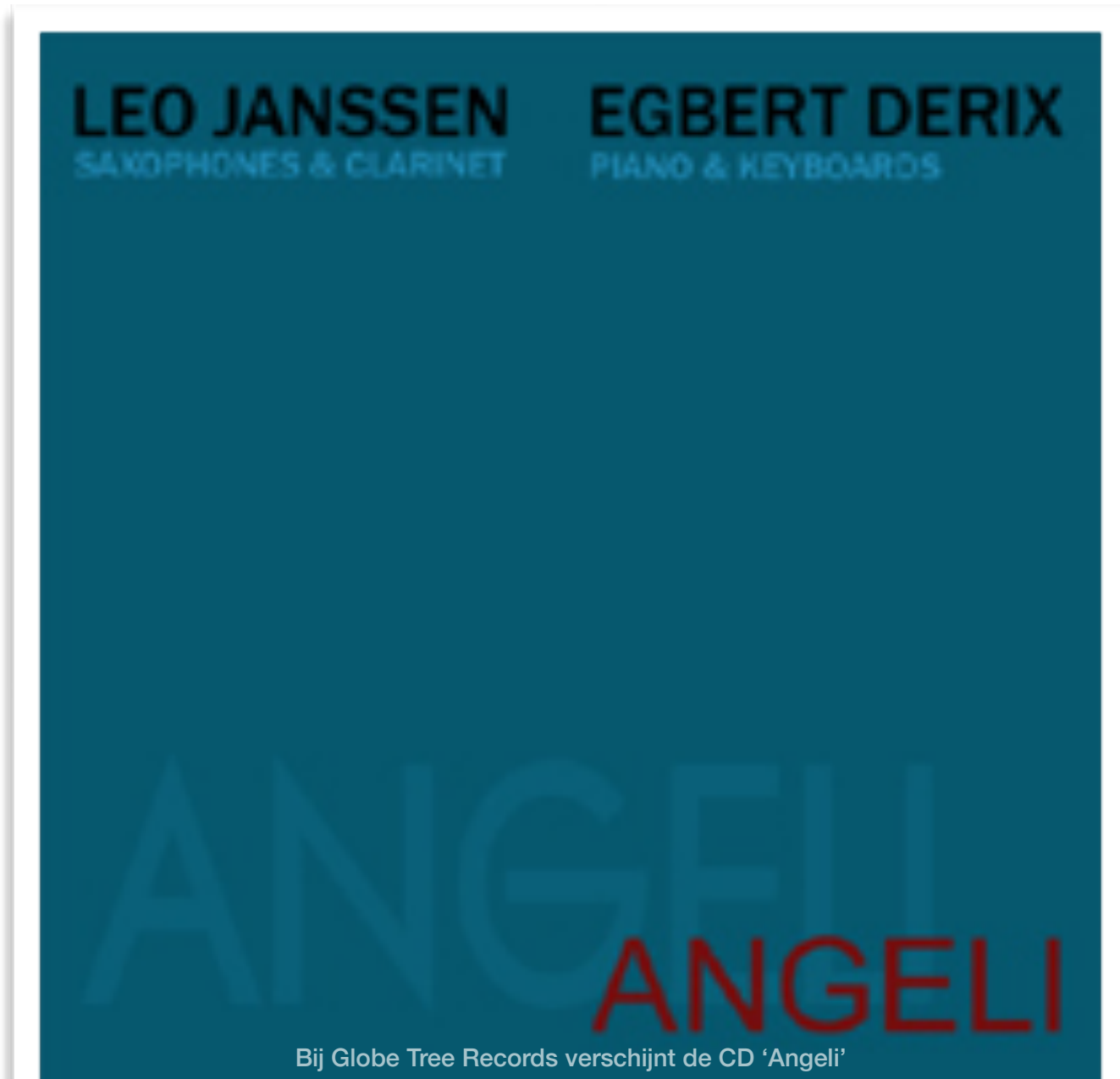
In February the cd 'In het Zuiden Opklaringen' is released on Vulcano Records. The cd mostly features compositions by Egbert with Dutch lyrics by Ton Engels. The songs on 'In het Zuiden Opklaringen' are played by Ton Engels (vocals & guitar) , Egbert (piano, rhodes, melodica & keys), bassplayer Reyer Zwart and Arthur Lijten on drums. The cd is very well received by the Dutch press and they are invited to play on a couple of radio-shows (Vara, Tros, Ncrv, Vpro). There's a video of the single 'In de Kroeg'.

In september 'Starling Hill' , performed by the Searing Quartet, is judged one of the best ten jazzcompositions at the annual Thelonious Monk Competition in Washington D.C.

On the new Blowbeat album 'Songs from the Crazy Planet', released in October, Egbert plays keyboards as a guestmusician on the track 'Liverpool'.

HIGHLIGHTS

2005



In March 'Angeli', a cd by Egbert Derix and clarinet- and saxplayer Leo Janssen (member of the Dutch Metropole Orchestra), is released.

The cd-presentation concert is in June at the 'Theater aan het Vrijthof' in Maastricht, The Netherlands. 'Angeli' features compositions by Derix and Janssen and a co-composition by Glenn Corneille and Egbert Derix.

In April and December Egbert, bassplayer Erik Robaard and drummer Jasper van Hulten play a few concerts with singer Lydia van Dam. On April 24th the Lydia van Dam Quartet plays at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam.

In December Egbert plays keyboards with Ton Engels & De Medeplichtigen (with singer/songwriter Ton Engels, guitarist Cor Mutsers, bassplayer Eric Coenen, and drummer Arthur Lijten).



Journalist Remco Takken made a program about Egbert's compositions for the Dutch Concertzender. The special features Egbert's work played by the Searing Quartet, Digna, the Loet van der Lee Quintet, Leo Janssen, and the Corneille/Roelofs Trio.

In september the third Searing Quartet cd, 'Starling Hill' , is released by Inbetweens Records. 'Starling Hill' contains compositions by saxplayer Peter Hermesdorf and Egbert Derix.

HIGHLIGHTS

2003



Searing Quartet -North Sea Jazz,
July 2003, Den Haag:

Egbert Derix, Norbert Leurs, Peter Hermesdorf and Sjoerd
Rutten (from left to right)
(photo: Wouter Schenk)

The new Searing Quartet cd, *Set Sail!*, is released. The Searing Quartet plays at the North Sea Jazz Festival in The Hague. Egbert plays keyboards in the Dutch theatre tour of Iain Matthews. Bassplayer Eric Coenen, drummer Arthur Lijten, and singer/guitarist Ad Vanderveen are also in the band.

After the tour a live-cd is released called 'If you saw through my eyes'.

Egbert writes a composition (*La Caverne*) for the project *Holland in Jazz*, an initiative of trumpetplayer Loet van der Lee.

The cd is presented in the BIM-huis in Amsterdam. *Holland in jazz* is released by Munich Records.

On their cd *And that s why* (Munich Records), the Corneille/Roelofs trio plays a co-composition by pianist Glenn Corneille and Egbert, titled *Astoria*.

HIGHLIGHTS

2003



At the North Sea Jazz Festival in The Hague, Egbert receives the prize for Best Composition of the Dutch Jazz Competition.

Egbert plays piano in the theaterproduction Lennon & McCartney (featuring singers Han van Eijk, Lisa Boray, Lydia van Dam, Herman van Doorn and arrangements by Glenn Corneille).

The Searing Quartet receives the first Jerry van Rooyen Award at the Maastricht Jazztival.

NYPD: New York Police Dudes!, one of the compositions on the Corneille/Roelofs cd Finally (Munich Records) is composed by Egbert.

Egbert receives an Honor Award from the American Songwriters Network for his composition "Exit Ego".

With Digna he plays the semifinals of the Dutch Jazz Competition and with the Searing Quartet he reaches the finals in the Diligentia theatre in The Hague.

The Corneille/Roelofs trio plays some of Egbert's compositions at the North Sea Jazz Festival.

Egbert and pianist Glenn Corneille give a duo-concert at De Maaspoort in Venlo.



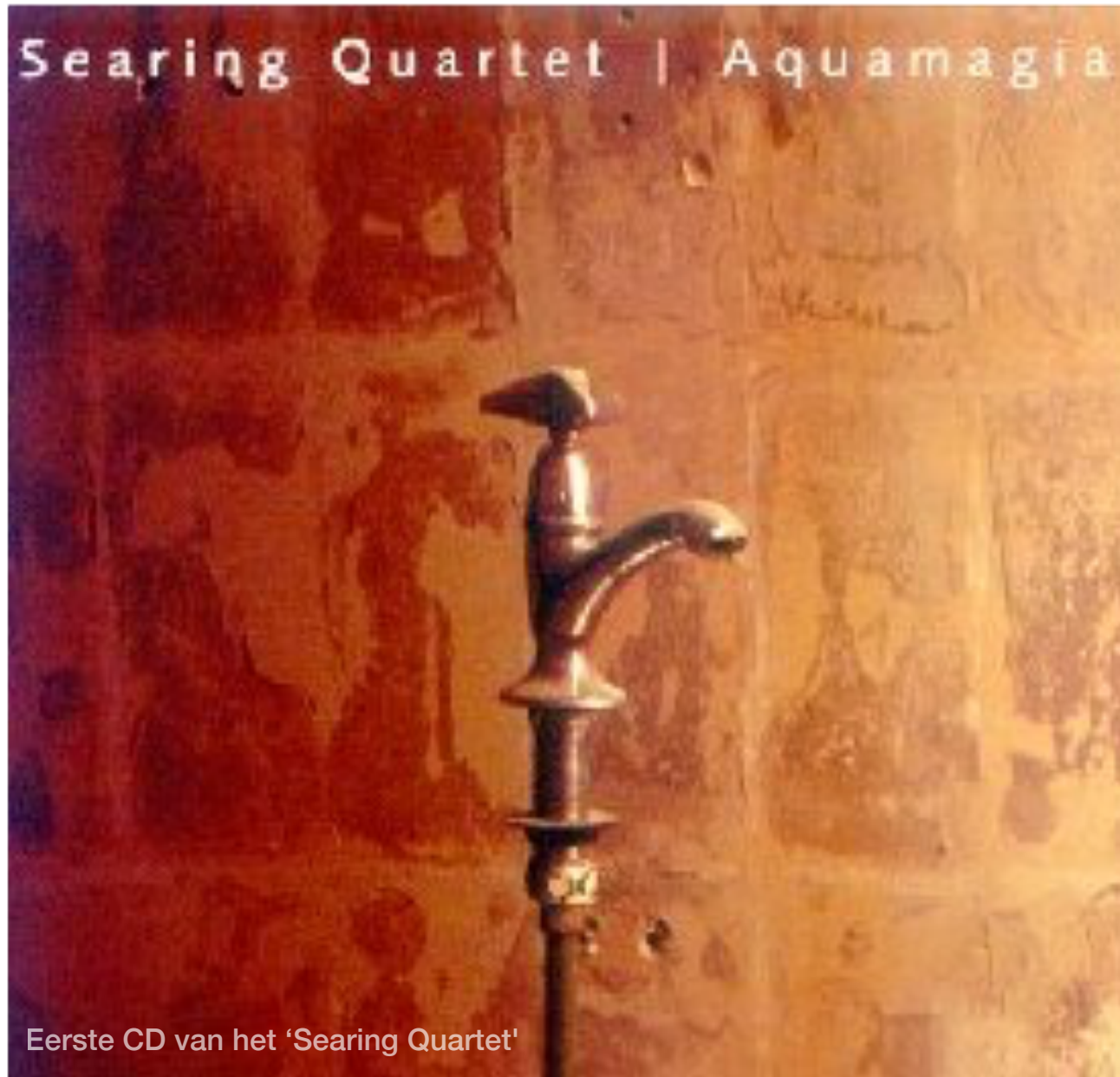
Egbert Derix and Steve Kuhn in
"The Knickerbocker", New York, April 2000

Egbert is one of three composers to win the composition prize that is associated with the VSB Poetry prize.

His composition on C.O. Jellema's poem "Tijdopname" is performed by singer Trijntje Oosterhuis and the Polo de Haas trio.

HIGHLIGHTS

1999



HIGHLIGHTS

1999

"Aquamagia" , Searing Quartets first cd is released. "Aquamagia" features Egbert's and saxplayer Peter Hermesdorf's compositions. The cd is produced by Christoph Erbstoesser and the music is played by Egbert (piano), Peter Hermesdorf (saxes), Werner Lauscher (bass), and Geert Roelofs (drums).

During 1999-2000 Egbert teaches piano at the Conservatory Maastricht.

HIGHLIGHTS

1998

Digna wins the juryprize and "publieksprijs" at the International Jazz Competition in Breda.

In november Digna and the Searing Quartet play a concerttour with the bigband of the Maastricht Conservatory, directed by Bill Holman.

HIGHLIGHTS

1997

The Searing Quartet wins the "publieksprijs" at the International Jazz Competition in Breda.

HIGHLIGHTS

1996

Egbert plays with singer Digna Janssen at the European Jazznight of the "Wereld Muziek Concours" in Kerkrade (with a.o. Jerry van Rooijen's Dutch Jazz Orchestra, Denise Jannah, and Nueva Manteca).

HIGHLIGHTS

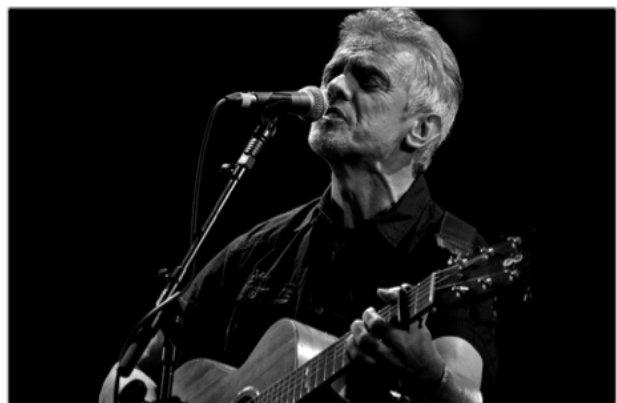
1995

The newly formed Searing Quartet plays the finals of the "Dutch Conservatory Award" in Amsterdam. Searing Quartet also plays on the Dutch radioshow VPRO's Jazz op vier with Aad Bos.

HIGHLIGHTS

1991

Egbert plays with his trio at the Jazz Mecca Festival in Maastricht. Miles Davis, Branford Marsalis and Irakere are the headliners of the festival.



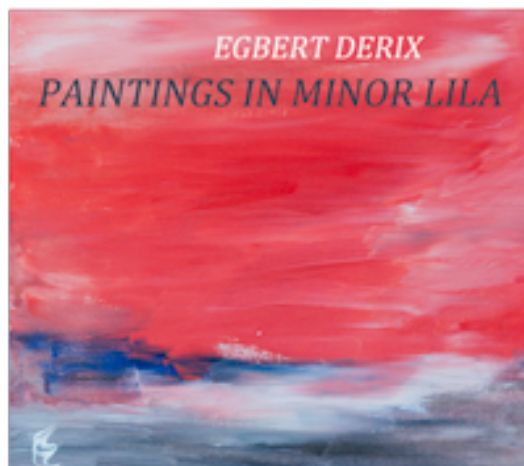
Iain Matthews & Egbert Derix



Angeli



Searing Quartet



CONTACT

www.egbertderix.com



Egbert DERIX

A black and white close-up portrait of a man with a shaved head and a short beard, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on his face and deep shadows.

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BIOGRAPHY