





Gábor Horváth

Steinway D Grand Concert piano

Balázs Horváth

Double bass

Attila Gálfi

Drums



Gábor Horváth is a jazz pianist, composer and teacher, founder of the **Transform Quintet**, key member of **Gereben Zita Quintet**. He composed numerous film scores and recorded an album together with the worldwide known great jazz pianist **Joey Calderazzo** (Branford Marsalis Quartet).

Hunnia Records releases **Gábor Horváth Trio's** new album **"TRICKS"**. While their previous album **"Soundtrack"** – that was nominated for Gramofon Awards and Gábor was voted as the Composer of The Year by the readers of jazzma.hu – took inspiration from movie scores and narrated an imaginary day through the songs, the new album is inspired by the enchanting world of magic and card tricks.

Almost all the compositions got its titles from a magic trick or gimmick (for example Double Lift is when two cards are shown as one, Palm is when you hide the card in your hand). Gábor was a child when he was first introduced to the world of magic when he received a trick box as a gift. A few years ago, he was charmed by the world of card tricks again and he entertained his friends and family as he learned the trade as a renewed hobby. He translated the joy of this process, the build-up, the structure and the twist into the language of music.

Gábor explains: "In a way it's a return to my childhood, when the aim of these tricks was to bring simple, honest joy. I tried to show these emotions and feelings as a composer on this record. As pianist I discovered the improvement of dexterity as the tricks require a lot of practice and sleight of hand movements which felt good to my hands and I'm certain they made an impact on my piano playing."





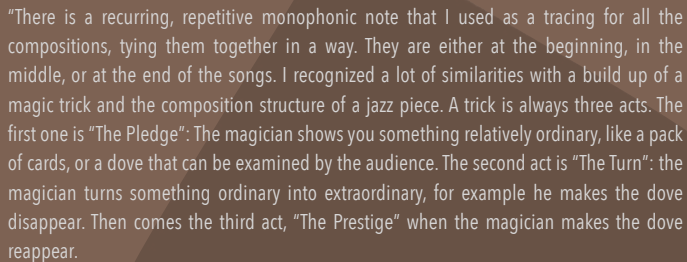
The regular rhythm section of the Trio was a partner in this on the album. After a decade of working together the band is so tuned to each other that they play with ease and composedness. The drumming, improvisational skills and sensibility of **Attila Gálfi** brings not only elements of swing, but groovy, hard rhythms to the colourful and rhythmically whirling compositions. The robust, punctual, and sensible play from **Balázs Horváth** on the upright bass is a good complement for their music.

The compositions on the album are playful, full of humour and emotional diversity. The upbeat and magical energy bombs with plenty of rhythmical changes are paired with ambitious solos and hymnic ballads. Gábor's compositions are expressive: full of moods, clear and precise framing of feelings, all perfectly executed through their instruments.

There is a piano solo piece on the album called "Back in Time": "This is a look back in to the past, a nostalgic remembrance of my childhood. I teach kids and I always wanted to write a composition that is easy to play and learn for my younger students, but it gives a different vibe for them, different form than the other pieces we use for studying."

Gábor couldn't get himself away from the effects of the pandemic. This was summarized in the composition called "Lonely Robot at the Time of Pandemic": "It's the robotic ostinato, a rhythmically repetitive musical motif that I used to express the lockdowns daily routine, all the negative effects and beauty that comes with it.





"There is a recurring, repetitive monophonic note that I used as a tracing for all the compositions, tying them together in a way. They are either at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of the songs. I recognized a lot of similarities with a build up of a magic trick and the composition structure of a jazz piece. A trick is always three acts. The first one is "The Pledge": The magician shows you something relatively ordinary, like a pack of cards, or a dove that can be examined by the audience. The second act is "The Turn": the magician turns something ordinary into extraordinary, for example he makes the dove disappear. Then comes the third act, "The Prestige" when the magician makes the dove reappear.

Gabor added: "To me, this structure perfectly rhymes with the structure of jazz standards or compositions. The audience gets to know a melody, a musical theme, that the musicians start to play with, improvise and transform, and the theme comes back at the end with a different meaning, maybe with different reharmonizations and rhythms. I tried to carry this concept through the album with musical "tricks" such as changes in time signatures, tempo or rhythm, key changes, and I tried to "hide" these from the audience, just as a magician would do with a magic trick, keeping the secrets to himself. Enjoy!"



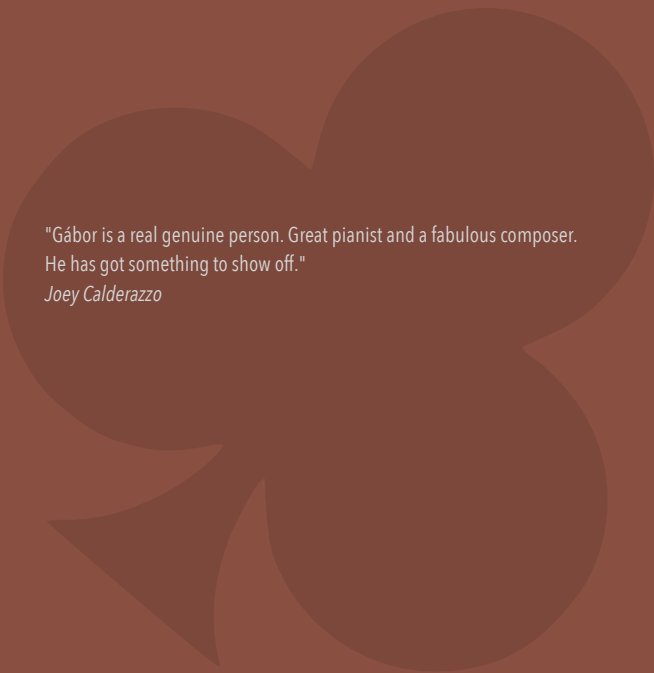
THANKS TO

everyone who inspired and helped me making this record:

László Horváth, Zsuzsi Sohr, Zita Gereben, Livia Varga, Bálint Gyémánt,
Perczel family, Tamás Szalai, Szilvia Máth, Anikó Magócsi,
Gábor Halász, Róbert Zoltán Hunka

Thanks to my wonderful band: Attila, Balázs





"Gábor is a real genuine person. Great pianist and a fabulous composer.
He has got something to show off."

Joey Calderazzo



GÁBOR HORVÁTH TRIO

TRICKS

01. Double Lift	7:02
02. Carneval of Cards	5:44
03. It Could Be Beautiful	7:55
04. Tricks	5:52
05. Mr. Diamond	4:08
06. Turnover Pass	4:50
07. The Tales of the Magician	7:56
08. Back in Time	3:52
09. Lonely Robot at the Time of Pandemic	4:30
10. Palm	9:16
11. Circles	6:00

All music composed by Gábor Horváth

www.horvathtojasgabor.com

Technical info

Piano

DPA 4007

DPA 4041

Neumann U87

AEA Ribbon R88

Drums

Kick: Neumann U47 FET, AKG D12

Snare: Shure SM57

Toms: Shure MD421

Overhead: Neumann KM84

Mono Room: AEA R84 Ribbon

Bass

Neumann U47 FET, Vanguard V1, Telefunken M820

The drum mics went through the AMEK preamps (designed by Rupert Neve)

All other mics went through Merging HAPI preamps.

Recorded on Merging HAPI (Pyramix)

Mixed on AMEK Media 51

Master EQ GML 8200

Gábor Halász



Recorded February 18-20, 2022 at **SuperSize Recording Studio**

Balance and recording engineer: **Gábor Halász**

Mastering engineer: **Tom Caulfield**

Recorded audio format: **Native DSD256** (Pyramix, Merging Hapi)

Photography: **Szilvia Máth**

Produced by: **Gábor Horváth, Róbert Zoltán Hunka**

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