

Hilde Louise Asbjørnsen - Sound Your Horn (2008)

Written by bluesever

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1 *Let's Stay In* 2 *It Ain't Friday* 3 *Sweet Morning* 4 *All You Are To Me* 5 *Prelude To The Stars* 6 *The Room* 7 *This Winter* 8 *Look To The Stars* 9 *Desert Song* 10 *The Darkest Hour* 11 *This Love* 12 *Sound Your Horn* Accordion – Espen Leite Backing Vocals – Julie Dahle Ågaard, Karen Musæus, Lene Kongsvik Johansen Bass, Backing Vocals – Jens Fossum Cello – Samuel Skrede Drums, Percussion, Backing Vocals – Klaus Robert Blomvik Flute – Ketil Vestrum Einarsen Guitar, Backing Vocals – Jan Martin Smørdal Harmonica – Finn Hauge Piano, Keyboards, Backing Vocals – Anders Aarum Tenor Saxophone, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet – Atle Nymo Trombone – Jørgen Gjerde Trumpet – Kåre Nymark Jr. Tuba – David Gald Vocals, Oiano (8) – Hilde Louise Asbjørnsen

Born in the small town of Sykkylven on the Northwest coast of Norway, Hilde Louise took piano lessons and sang in the local church choir, the only possible stage activities for children at that time and place. From the age of 16 she started performing with a model agency in Ålesund who offered fashion shows with dancing and entertainment (Piaf Modeller). When she moved to Oslo, at the age of 19, she dived in to studying Theatre Science at the University of Oslo, where she got her bachelor degree. In 1998 she enrolled in the student theatre, where she met her soon to be stage partner and close friend, Lene Kongsvik Johansen. Together, the girls formed the cabaret duo; Asbjørnsen & Joh. (referring to the well known folk story writers Asbjørnsen & Moe) With their satiric and humoristic musical shows Asbjørnsen & Joh. received stunning reviews, awards and a great audience, and performed together on stage, TV and radio for app. 9 years. Their first show, Noraprisen, premiered in 2000. Their last, so far, in 2008.

Parallel to writing for the cabaret stage, Hilde Louise began writing songs of her own in English. Having grown up with a mother cherishing the great jazz artists such as Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan and Nat King Cole, this had influenced her mind more than she was aware of. Until she started writing..

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Her first studio session happened in Bergen, 2002, with Harald Dahlstrøm(piano), Yngve Moe(bass) and Steinar Krogstad(drums), which resulted in her first demo tape.

Back in Oslo, she contacted Norwegian pianist Per Husby, and in December 2002 she played her first gig at "Fryd" in Oslo with Per Husby(pi), Kåre Nymark jr. (trumpet), Totto Hansen(drums) and Ole Marius Melhus (bass). In March 2004 Bonnier Amigo Music released her first album "Eleven Nights and Two Early Mornings" on the Amigo label.

"Eleven Nights" was very well received by the music press, and lead to a number of gigs in jazz clubs and festivals in Norway. The line-up changed on the way. Drummer Klaus Robert Blomvik (BWM Trio) and pianist Tomas Heggdal joined in 2002 and bass player Roger Williamsen (BWM Trio) in 2004. In 2005 Hilde Louise asked pianist Anders Aarum to take over, and this lead to a long and extended collaboration. Aarum is featured on her second album "Birdie Blues" (UpNorth Discs 2005) where he also wrote the brass arrangements. "Birdie Blues" was co-produced by Karin Krog, and also features Georg Wadenius(guitar) and Atle Hammer(trumpet).

In 2008 Aarum produced the album "Sound Your Horn", recorded in Oceansound Recordings, Giske. "Sound Your Horn" went straight into the Norwegian Charts Top 40 and stayed there for 6 weeks. For that same album guitar player and composer Jan Martin Smørdal and bass player Jens Fossum joined the band, and put their signatures on both "Sound Your Horn" and "Never Ever Going Back". ---hildelouise.no

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