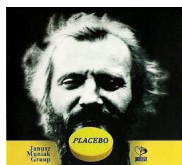


## Janusz Muniak Group - Placebo (1983)

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1. *Rozmyślanie na sopranie* 2. *Funky dla pani Hanki* 3. *Nie bądź na mnie zła kiedy wracam z trasy* 4. *Placebo* Musicians: Janusz Muniak - soprano & tenor saxophones Wojciech Puszek - Fender piano Andrzej Cudzich - bass Krzysztof Zawadzki – drums

Polish saxophonist / composer / bandleader Janusz Muniak was one of the most important Polish Jazz figures during the early post WWII period, which flourished in the 1960s / 1970s. He was part of the emerging revolutionary movement of Polish Jazz, where he played along such legendary pioneers as Andrzej Trzaskowski, Krzysztof Komeda and Tomasz Stanko. Since the late 1970s Muniak leads his own groups and records as a leader. This is his second album as a leader and since then he continued to record a plethora of albums over the years, both as a leader and sideman. He also owns his own Jazz club in Krakow, called "U Muniaka", which is one of the oldest continuously active Jazz venues in the country.

This album presents Muniak in a quartet setting, with pianist Wojciech Puszek (playing the Fender Rhodes electric piano), bassist Andrzej Cudzich and drummer Krzysztof Zawadzki. They perform four lengthy originals, all by Muniak, which allow for extended improvisations, mostly by the leader. The presence of the electric piano sets the overall ambience of this recording, pushing it slightly towards Jazz-Rock Fusion, but the leader keeps the situation in check and well within the modern mainstream bounds. Muniak's performances on both the soprano and tenor saxophones are first rate as are those by the rhythm section, creating together some excellent, but not very innovative modern Jazz, which most Jazz listeners should enjoy. ---Adam Baruch, polish-jazz.blogspot.com

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