

TRIO MINSARAH

Florian Weber (Piano)
Jeff Denson (Kontrabass)
Ziv Ravitz (Drums)

The members of Minsarah (Florian Weber- piano, Jeff Denson- bass, and Ziv Ravitz- drums) met in September 2000, while attending Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. During this time an intense musical connection developed, which produced their exceptional, unique, and personal sound.

Minsarah traveled to Germany to perform a solo concert at the Detmold Concert Hall, in February 2002. The event was promoted with radio and television interviews and covered in multiple newspapers (see <http://www.minsarah.com>). In December 2003, the band returned to Germany to perform at Cologne Jazz Night. And in January 2003, Minsarah received a recording contract from German record-label hubermusic. The recording of their first 'Minsarah' album was followed by a critically acclaimed tour of some of Germany's most prestigious Jazz clubs; a tour of Japan and Rumania, a performance at the International Jazz Festival Viersen in 2004, several USA tours in 2005, and a concert at JVC festival, Paris; Enjoy Jazz Festival, Heidelberg; and Berlin Jazz Fest among other appearances in 2006- all to a huge acclaim.

Since its release on Enja records in 2006, Minsarah's self-titled debut album has been airing regularly on WDR and Deutschland Radio- being heard in Germany, parts of France, Poland, Austria, Switzerland, and in the Netherlands. In January 2007 'Minsarah' was on listed on the German Album Critics Bestlist, and in September 2007 they recorded their second album for Enja, together with Lee Konitz in New York. In October 2007, they performed at the Munich *Jazzfest* and in Spring 2008 at *Jazzahead* in Bremen.

Florian Weber has received as a professorship for Jazzpiano at the 'Institut für Musik der FH Osnabrück' (2007), as well as the following prizes:

- 2001 Steinway & Sons Preises beim Montreux Jazzfestival
- 2003 Grotrian-Steinweg Preis ; Weimar
- 2006 Horst und Gretl Will-Stipendiums für Jazz/Improvisierte Musik; Stadt Köln
1st prize des 9. Concours International de Soliste de Jazz; Monaco.
- 2007 Förderpreis des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen für junge Künstler

Jeff Denson received the 'Berklee Outstanding Performer Award' in 2002, and **Ziv Ravitz** the 'Zildjian Scholarship Award' in 2003.

„Finally again, a band that juggles notes, tones, atmospheres and experiences-
unselfconsciously and imaginatively. Understanding, curiosity, common searching.
A truly open-ended process. Nothing can be predicted, nothing corrected. Everything is possible.“
(Reinhard Köchel, Class, 4/2006)