



Marcus Schinkel
CROSSOVER BEETHOVEN

Marcus Schinkel
Composer & Pianist

After just 50 years after the release of "Play Bach" by Jacques Loussier, the German pianist Marcus Schinkel continues the fusion of classical music and jazz with his program "Crossover Beethoven" asking provocatively "Would Beethoven be a popular jazz musician on this present day?"

Marcus Schinkel started playing classical piano at the age of 8 and was a fervent fan of Beethoven. His sculpture was placed in front of a "Who" poster. Like Schroeder, the little "Peanuts" comics pianist he devoured books and biographies of the ingenious eccentric. To this day the crossover-musician opens all borders and goes beyond all bounds

Marcus Schinkel, one of Germany's finest border crosser between classic, jazz, electro and pop, is able to look back on his successful past: he played for Maestro Kurt Masur, Paul Kuhn, Charlie Mariano, Eric Vloeimans and the Beethoven Orchestra Bonn.

His mentors were Keith Jarrett, Esbjörn Svenson, Chick Corea and Herbie Hancock. As the centre piece of his many musical projects Marcus Schinkel founded his trio with Wim de Vries (drums) and Bas Rietmeijer (bass) in 1989 during his study at the Arnhem Music Conservatory in the Netherlands.

Wim de Vries- one of the most noted drummers in Europe and the one half of „Drumbassadors“- who created a furore in the whole world and Bas Rietmeyer, an important figure in the Dutch jazz musician scene, who also played with Eric Vloeimans, Jasper van 't Hof and Eef Alberts.

For more than 20 years the Marcus Schinkel Trio has been playing in the unchanged line-up on stages and festivals in Germany, Europe, Russia, in the Caribbean and even for the German embassy in Vietnam.



Marcus Schinkel's most recent program „Crossover Beethoven“ is founded on the quote of the medieval author Thomas Morus: "The tradition is not meant to preserve the ashes, but to pass on the flame" Something More!!

Marcus Schinkel arranged Beethoven compositions on his CD "News From Beethoven" - published in 2004 like the well-known pieces "moonshine-sonata" and "For Elise". 2009 followed the arrangements of 9 themes from the 9 Beethoven symphonies for the International Beethoven Festival Bonn. The CD "9 Symphonies" published shows the harmonious blend and Crossover of Jazz Trio and classical string quartet. In his new program "Cross Over Beethoven" Schinkel blends his style of composition with Beethoven's melodies, thus catapulting the harmonies and rhythms into modern times between Jazz, Electro and Rock. The original music flashes to the surface every so often, thus building a commenting function, which serves as a base camp for jazzy excursions into a brave new world. The German paper Jazzpodium writes "Jazz-like reharmonized fragments of Beethoven themes with a lot of verve and know-how(...) one of the few successful adaptations of classical music into Jazz!"