



MICHAEL WOLLNY

FACTSHEET

INTRODUCTION

Since ACT started their series Young German Jazz with Michael Wollny's trio debut *call it [em]*, the press has been celebrating him, not only as a representative of a new generation of German jazz musicians, but also as a most promising young talent on the piano. "Young enough, not to have to lug around the ballast of the jazz tradition, and perceptive enough to discover something new every day" (K. Heidkamp *Die Zeit*). Wollny - a thoroughly modest musician - is nonetheless pleased at compliments like this one, and at the lasting success of his up to now five releases on ACT. Along with [em] these releases feature him with the sextet Young Friends and not least with his duo partner Heinz Sauer, and have brought him numerous national and international bookings, as well as the Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik (for *Melancholia*, ACT 9433-2) or the Bayerischer Kulturförderpreis 2005.

Few jazz musicians of his generation have received comparable recognition in the jazz press over the last four years. The "Financial Times Deutschland" describes him as a "comet of the German jazz scene" and the British magazine "Jazzwise" takes it for granted that "Wollny could well become a major talent in European jazz".

UPCOMING RELEASES

Joachim Kühn & Michael Wollny *Live at Schloss Elmau*: Release Feb 09

Michael Wollny Solo record: Release in Fall 09

PERSONAL

- 1978 born in Schweinfurt (GER)
 Parents: Prof. Dr. Josef Wollny, Ingeborg Wollny
 Sister: Christiane Wollny
- 1997 High-School Diploma at Celtis-Gymnasium Schweinfurt (GER)

EDUCATION

- until 1997 musical education (Piano, Violine) at the Musikschule Schweinfurt (GER), several awards Jugend musiziert
- 1994-97 extra-mural student at Hermann-Zilcher-Konservatorium Würzburg (GER)
- 1997-2004 academic studies at the Hochschule für Musik Würzburg (GER)
 teacher: Chris Beier
- 2001 Educational Diploma
- 2002 Artistic Diploma summa cum laude
- 2004 Master Class Diploma
- 1998-2002 Member of the German Youth Jazz Orchestra lead by Peter Herbolzheimer, Classes by John Taylor, Walter Norris, John Riley, John Ruocco

ARTISTIC CAREER

- 1998-2003 Organisation & Booking of the Jazzprogramm at the Kulturwerkstatt Dishamonie, Schweinfurt (GER)
- 2001-2004 Lectureship Jazzpiano at the Hochschule für Musik Würzburg (GER) leading the seminar „Skrijabin and Jazzharmonic“ (with Eva-Maria May)
- since 2005 diverse workshops in Germany and foreign countries (Goethe-Institut)
- since 1999 pianist on a regular basis at the Staatstheater Nürnberg (GER) and the Nationaltheater Mannheim (GER)

ARTISTIC CAREER

- 1999 US-Tour with the Summit Jazz Orchestra (inter alia Tobias Weidinger, Axel Schlosser, Martin Auer, Mark Wyand, Paul Höchstädter)
- 2000 Tour with the Summit Jazz Orchestra feat. Clark Terry
- since 2001 productions on a regular basis with the Jazzensemble of the Hessischen Rundfunks (Albert Mangelsdorff, Heinz Sauer, Christof Lauer, Günter Lenz, Ralf Hübner, Joki Freund, Peter Back, Emil Mangelsdorff)
intensive collaboration with Heinz Sauer (Sextett/Quartett/Trio/Duo)
e.g. feat. Stephan Schmolck, Stefan Lottermann, Jörg Meder, Willi Kappich
- 2001 Engagement Bob Brookmeyer's New Art Orchestra
- since 2002 Engagements Peter Herbolzheimer's RC&B (e.g. feat. New York Voices, Judy Niemack)
- 2003 Sibiria-Tour with the Summit Jazz Orchestra
- since 2004 Member of the Sunday Night Orchestra Nürnberg (inter alia Ed Partyka, Sebastian Stempel, Dejan Terzic, Hubert Winter, Lutz Häfner, Gerhard Gschlössl)
collaboration on a regular basis with Peter Fulda (Tentett, Duo)
- 2005 exclusive record deal with Siegfried Loch / ACT Records

Furthermore concerts, productions and tours with:

Stephan Schmolck, Billy Elgart, Till Brönner, Benny Green, Don Grusin, Peter Erskine, Pat Metheny, Vince Mendoza, Nils Landgren, Ulf Wakenius, Wolfgang Haffner, Dieter Ilg, Makoto Ozone, Hugo Read, Hans Peter Salentin, Peter Back, Wolfgang Kriener, Joachim Leyh, Paul Höchstädter, Nils Wogram, Christopher Dell, Dieter Mündelein, Andreas Gandela, Markus Schieferdecker, Hubert Winter.

Concerts in:

Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, England, Ireland, France, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Sibiria, Czech Republic, USA, Philippines, Japan, Marocco.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 1999 Cultural Award from the Lions Club Würzburg de Leone – Würzburg (GER)
- 2002 Scholarship of the Arts Council Rhein-Neckar-Kreis – Heidelberg (GER)
- 2003 Art Award of the City Schweinfurt – Schweinfurt (GER)
- 2005 Bavarian Art Award – München (GER)
- 2005 Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik for „Melancholia“ – Berlin (GER)
- 2005 Star of the Year (AZ München) – München (GER)
- 2005 Rosenstrauss of the Year (TZ München) – München (GER)
- 2006 „Choc de l’Annee“ – Award of the French magazine Jazzman for „Certain Beauty“ – Paris (F)
- 2006 [em] II achieves Rang 15 of the list „100 Best CDs of the Year“ „Observer Music Monthly“ – London (UK)
- 2007 Ronnie Scott’s Jazz Award „Most Promising International Newcomer“ für [em] – London (UK)
- 2007 International Jazz Award of the Nurembourg Nachrichten – Nürnberg (GER)
- 2007 Disque d’emoi 2007 – Award of the French „Jazzmagazine“ for „Hexentanz“ – Paris (F)
- 2007 „Tracks of the Year“ British BBC for the composition „Another Mr Lizard“ published on „[em] II“ – London (UK)
- 2008 SWR Jazz Award for the Duo Heinz Sauer – Michael Wollny - Mainz (GER)

CD – RELEASES

Summit Jazz Orchestra:	Moods Of A Cat	1999	Edition Collage
Summit Jazz Orchestra:	Clark (+Clark Terry)	2001	Edition Collage
Wollny/Kriener/Leyh:	CDNR3	2001	Masterlab
Hans Peter Salentin:	Sound Of Silence	2002	yvp Records
Peter Back:	Blindman's Buff	2002	Rockwerk Rec.
Kai Bussenius Trio:	This Town	2003	Mons Rec.
Hubert Winter/ Michael Wollny:	Different Kinds Of Stories	2003	ART-Purerecords
Hugo Siegmeth: Rec.	Oracle	2004	Village Pond
Wollny/Kruse/Schaefer:	call it [em]	2005	ACT Records
Heinz Sauer/ Michael Wollny:	Melancholia	2005	ACT Records
Various Artists	Romantic Freedom	2005	ACT Records
Young Friends:	Great German Songbook	2005	ACT Records
Heinz Sauer/ Michael Wollny:	Certain Beauty	2006	ACT Records
Wollny/Kruse/Schaefer:	[em] II	2006	ACT Records
Michael Wollny:	Hexentanz	2007	ACT Records
Hans Peter Salentin:	Beyond Our Thoughts	2007	yvp Records
Heinz Sauer:	The Journey	2007	ACT Records
Wollny/Kruse/Schaefer:	[em] 3	2008	ACT Records

CONFIRMED DATES 2009 SOLO

Oct, 20th	Nürnberg (GER)	Karstadt Kultur
Oct, 21st	Mainz (GER)	Frankfurter Hof
Oct, 22nd	Kaiserslautern (GER)	Kammgarn
Oct, 23rd	Stuttgart (GER)	Theaterhaus
Oct, 24th	Essen (GER)	Philharmonie
Oct, 25th	Dortmund (GER)	Konzerthaus
Oct, 27th	Lübeck (GER)	MuK
Oct, 29th	Berlin (GER)	Kammermusiksaal
Oct, 30th	Leipzig (GER)	Gewandhaus
Oct, 31st	Hamburg (GER)	Kampnagel
Nov, 1st	Bremen (GER)	Glocke
Nov, 3rd	Osnabrück (GER)	Osnabrück Halle
Nov, 4th	Pforzheim (GER)	Kulturhaus
Nov, 5th	Darmstadt (GER)	Centralstation
Nov 6th	Mannheim (GER)	Alte Feuerwache
Nov, 7th	Karlsruhe (GER)	Tollhaus

POSSIBLE TOURING PERIODS UK

Summer Festivals 2009
November 19th until November 30th, 2009
January / February 2010
Spring Festivals 2010

PRESS QUOTES

HEXENTANZ ONLY

“Wollny provides further evidence that he is an important new voice on piano, his off-centre lyricism and subtle touch giving unexpected depth to the album, but there is excitement too in listening to these haunting etudes because also lurking among the mists and shadows of these well crafted moods are glimpses of a huge potential gradually being realised.”

Jazzwise (UK), May 2007, Stuart Nicholson

„Wollny’s music is sublime in both contexts, as a solo performer and with his cool Berlin trio.“

Jazz Review (UK), Juni 2007, Jennifer Laurie

„Hexentanz isn’t jazzy in the swing sense, but it shows the starbound Wollny using jazz sensibilities in the most creative ways.“

The Guardian (UK), August 10, 2007, John Fordham

“With that type of inspiration and the stunning mastery of the piano that Wollny displays, who knows where this most promising musician will take German jazz? He is obviously one of the leading figures of its renewal.”

www.jazz.com

LINKS

<http://www.myspace.com/michaelwollny>

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