

TOMMY KOTTER TRIO *TENDER LAND*



TENDER LAND

Early one morning, I sat down by my piano and played Interlude, then recently composed. When I heard the final chord ringing I heard another melody with chords that I played over and over again. It then struck me that it would be fine with different instruments one after the other playing the tune and also joined by a choir singing without words. I also teach music at the Arts Programme at Hvitfeldtska Upper Secondary School in Göteborg. So I presented the idea to the young musicians and asked them if they were willing to take part in the recording of a CD. The idea was met with great enthusiasm and so we went to Nilento Studio. The recording was done in a happy atmosphere and the young musicians played and sang incredibly well. It was a wonderful experience and I do hope to be able to do more recordings with them.

Tommy

24th January, 2017



Tommy Kotter, *piano*
Yasuhito Mori, *bass*
David Sundby, *drums*
Stefan Engberg, *percussion*
Gine Gaustad Andersen, *vocals*

CD 1 TENDER LAND

1. **Kivik marketplace.** Kivik is a place on the southeast coast of Sweden, famous for its cider factory but most of all for its market. My mother once went there to sell clothes she had made herself.
2. **Flowering Children-Bolero.** Dedicated to my two now grown up daughters Tove and Julia. Has text by Gine in Norwegian and English. I sometimes quote part of the melody theme but here it is presented as a whole in a slow 5/4 rythm.
3. **Folksong no 1.** Dedicated to my mother, beautifully played by Mori.
4. **Folksong no 2.** Arranged for clarinet, flute and piano in a fine erformance by Maja and Anna.
5. **Temple dance.** The song in this folk music suite is also called "Ease of Manner" with Asiatic and Brasilian influences.
6. **Flame.** A composition in different rythms (the bridge is played in 21/8 +18/8) invites to free excursions.
7. **Seascape.** Inspired by the beautiful seascape outside Hönö in the archipelago of Göteborg where we spent some years.
8. **Cavelight.** A somewhat older tune usually played by the Trio, but here completed with Stefan's swinging congas.
9. **Kivik shadows.** Written during a summer stay in Kivik. If you walk on the shore arond sunset, the shadows of the trees seem to chase you out into the water, (the sun sets on the wrong side).

TEMPLE DANCE

Lyrics: Gine Gaustad Anderssen

*Undrar, er våren her - eller kjem den snart?
Ljose dagar er godt, lengselen er sterk.
Ljos og kjærleik gir kraft,
vis meg spirande knopp,
blomstrande dagar av håp.
Kan`kje vite når våren kjem for godt.
Lengselen så sterk -*

*Sol, vind og vatten.
Livet det er så godt å leve,
kjærleik er alt vi treng - kom nær meg.
Fyll meg med varme, håp og latter.
Sol, vind og regn, og ekte glede.
Håp kom til meg -*

*Sol, vind og vatten.
Livet det er så godt å leve,
kjærleik er alt vi treng - kom nær meg.
Fyll meg med varme, håp og latter.
Sol, vind og regn, og ekte glede.
Vår kom til meg!*

*Undrar, er våren her - eller kjem den snart?
Ljose dagar er godt, lengselen er sterk.
Ljos og kjærleik gir kraft,
vis meg spirande knopp,
blomstrande dagar av håp.
Kan`kje vite når våren kjem for godt.
Kom til meg!*

FLOWERING CHILDREN-BOLERO

Lyrics: Gine Gaustad Anderssen

*Glitrande auger,
smilande born.
Små, varme hender -
dansande glad.*

*Sparkeling eyes,
a smile from a child.
Warm, little hands,
she's dancing - it's spring!*





The choir and instrumentalists from the Arts Programme at Hvitfeldtska Upper Secondary School.

Left, back row: Isak Ingvarsson *vocals & alto sax*, Joel Andreasson *vocals & flute*, Love Grundberg, Elliot Keller Altvall, Karl Ivert, Hjalmar Ljungberg, Elin Buxfeldt, Filippa Von Liewen Wistrand, Vanja Spolin, Maja Peinin, Daniel Norberg *vocals*.

Left, front row: Mauritz Larsson *electric guitar*, Alma Fridolfsson, Ivanna Junuzovic, Klara Nilsson, Maja Kamne, Claudia Delbro, Isabella Sanchez Berlanga, Felicia Dutra Karstrand, Klara Wising, Ebba Henningson, Ida Wachsberger *vocals*.

CD 2 TENDER LAND

1. **Hold my arms around you.** I wrote this piece on the day before my father should have celebrated his 100th birthday and my mother hers shortly after. I therefore dedicate this tune to my parents.
2. **The bells are ringing.** Sounds a bit like a summer waltz but was actually composed around Christmas.
3. **Ljuset från krubban (The light from the manger).** Inspired by the message of Christmas.
4. **Domherren (The bullfinch).** A winter bird found in Sweden but also in Norway, Kamtjatka and Japan. David starts with fascinating sounds on the kettle-drum.
5. **Summer rain.** Duo with the amazing voice of Gine.
6. **Holy Cow.** I started to play the piano in Svaneholm's Missionchurch, with gospel and spirituals and here with inspiration from country and blues.
7. **Winterpoem.** This music came to me on a day when the snow lay heavy on the branches of the trees and the town had a beautiful stillness in the snowy landscape. Dedicated to my grandchild Axel.
8. **On the tram.** One day when riding on the tram I composed a bass-ostinato on which this composition is built. The ride was shaky and bumpy which is reflected in the 13/8 rhythm.
9. **Interlude.** Piano sound with string melody that became the inspiration for Tender Land.
10. **Tender Land.** Here with the assistance of a group of young musicians from the Arts Programme at Hvitfeldtska Upper Secondary School in Göteborg, with whom I have had the great pleasure to work.



Instrumentalists from the Arts Programme at Hvitfeldtska Upper Secondary School.

Left: Lina Cavanna viola, Anna Nyback flute, Hilda Sundmark trumpet, Hjalmar Ljungberg trombone, Desideria Taghavi Aadland vocals, Maja Peining clarinet, Bori Brezovsky violin, Sabina Byström cello, Joel Andreasson alto sax.

Produced by Tommy Kotter. All compositions by Tommy Kotter except Bolero composed by Maurice Ravel. All arrangements by Tommy Kotter.

Special thanks to Jenny and Lars Nilsson, Michael Dahlvid, Helena Svensson and the studiodogs Lilly and Sandy.

Recorded by Michael Dahlvid at Nilento Studio, Göteborg, Sweden, in March and May 2016.

Sounddesign, mixed and mastered by Lars Nilsson.

Coordinator: Jenny Nilsson

Artwork: Bertil Fredholm, thanks to Barbro Fredholm

Photo: Thomas Bergh

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