



Mikael Máni

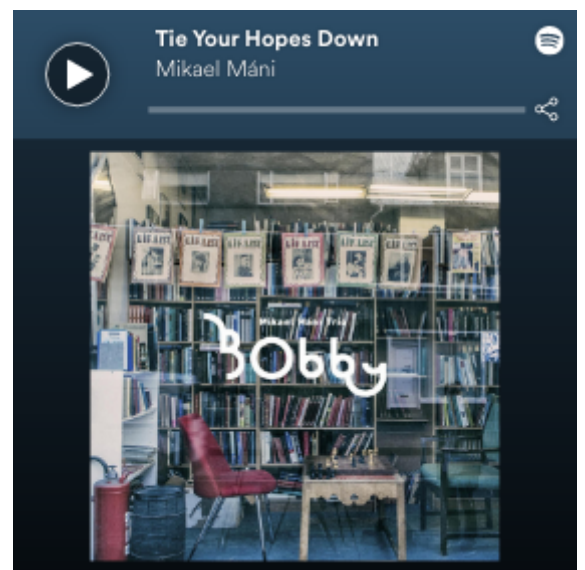
"...a thoughtful, deft musician ready to add his voice to the roster of Scandinavians who continue to sculpt a distinctive jazz sound."

— Franz A. Matzner, All about Jazz

-About-

26 year old Reykjavík born and bred guitarist and composer Mikael Máni, is one of the most exciting new artists on the Icelandic jazz scene. His meticulous style has been described by All about jazz as kindred to Jim Hall's in tone and inflection, with traces of Lage Lund and other contemporaries who have chosen more spacious and minimalist approaches to their style of play. Mikael Máni's debut release entitled 'Bobby' (a concept album citing the life experiences of controversial chess grand master Bobby Fischer), gained air time on respected international radio stations such as BBC Radio 3, Jazz FM, Radio France Musique, Icelandic national radio, as well as being covered in leading music magazines such as Jazzwise, The Wire and Record Collector and key online jazz resources such as London Jazz News.

Although loosely categorised as jazz, Mikael likes to describe his music as 'Jarm' – a subtle blend of jazz, rock and impressionism. He aims to balance his work so that it is both accessible and demanding, in the hope that listeners are able to be stimulated both intellectually and emotionally.



-Nostalgia Machine-

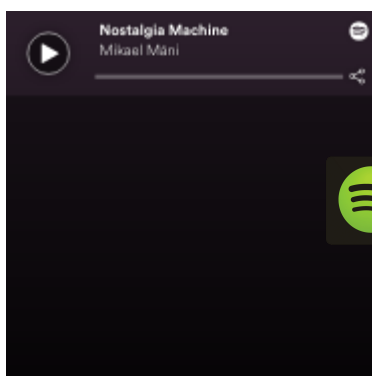
New release

August 2021 saw the Reykjavik born and bred guitarist Mikael Máni return with his second studio album Nostalgia Machine, on famed Icelandic label Smekkleysa (aka Bad Taste). His new album is produced by Matt Pierson, one of the most successful producers in contemporary jazz having worked with Brad Mehldau, Pat Metheny, Joshua Redman and many more.

Nostalgia Machine is a thoughtful and intriguing body of work, set to further increase Mikael Máni's growing reputation on the international music scene as an exiting and unique guitarist and composer.

"I have enjoyed Nostalgia Machine with the use of different instrumentation, the blending of musical styles and the linear approach to the album's construction. I have taken pleasure in Mikael's exploration of memory and wondered at how one person's own remembrances set to music can trigger a different set of memories in a listener using that same piece of music: something to reflect on when listening to this fascinating album again."

— SimplyJazzTalk Blog



-The band-



Mikael's collaborators and band members are all up and coming Icelandic musicians that have very diverse musical backgrounds covering not only jazz, but classical, pop, rock and experimental music.

The band features Mikael's sister, PhD student Lilja María Ásmundsdóttir, on piano and metallophone, electric bass player and Icelandic Music Awards winner Ingibjörg Elsa Turchi, Copenhagen based alto saxophone player Sölvi Kolbeinsson and Magnús Trygvason Elíassen on drums.

-Press photos-



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