

DOWNTOWN MUSIC GALLERY (NY, USA), Februar 2016
Rezension von Bruce Gallanter

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LUCA SISERA ROOFER - Prospect (Leo 737; UK) Roofer consists of Luca Sisera on bass & compositions, Michael Jaeger on tenor sax & clarinet, Silvio Cadotsch on trombone, Yves Theller piano & cembalo and Michi Stulz on drums. This is a Swiss quintet, with two members who have appeared on a couple of discs on the Intakt label: Mr. Jaeger (as a leader) and Mr. Sisera (in his band). The liner notes tell a story of Mr. Sisera's journey by boat to New York in 2013, meeting a former jazz journalist/lover on the way and bonding over jazz. Some of this music was inspired by Sisera's experiences here. His writing for this quintet is mature, diverse and often fascinating. "Backwards Cowboys" has the trombone, tenor sax and piano swirling tightly together in a sort of post-bop fashion. Mr. Theller plays a cembalo (harpsichord-like) on "Warship Requiem", which is ever so elegant with lush harmonies for the trombone and clarinet over soft scraped sounds from the rhythm team. Mr. Sisera often writes some challenging music for the piano/bass/drums to shift through while the horns also play their own intricate lines above. Although horn solos are few, when they happen, Sisera writes difficult counterparts to keep everyone on their toes. The longest, "Underhill Steam" is a tour-de-force which goes through several sections, each with its own complex twists and turns. Mr. Sisera himself takes a long, impressive bass solo with drums on "Drunk Octopus", which continues throughout the entire piece as it shifts through a series of hairpin turns. "Neptune's Chant" is a highlight as it has one of those sumptuous, hypnotic basslines and a wonderful, dreamy melody at the center. The last piece, "Rockaway", (for that section of Brooklyn) is equally enchanting and has a lovely vocal part added (no words). Considering I know so little about most of the members of this quintet, it is one of the most endearing and crafty gems of the week. - Bruce Lee Gallanter, DMG CD \$16