



Press Release

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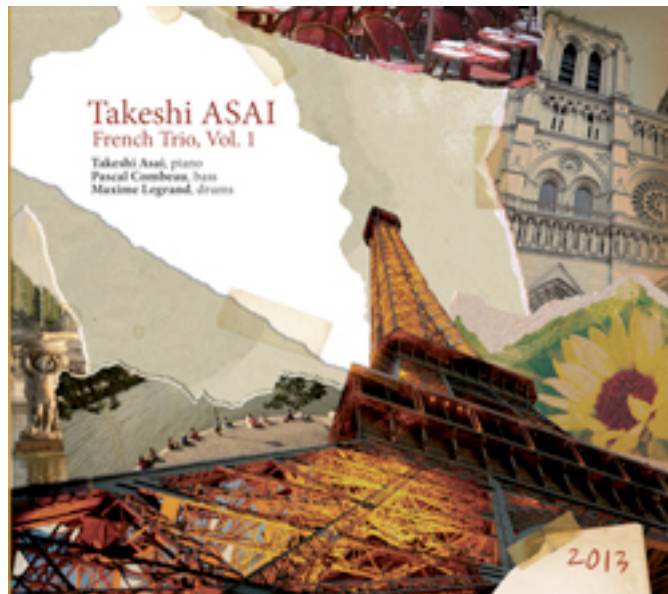
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Re: Takeshi Asai's New CD "French Trio, Vol. 1" to be Released on April 1, 2014

February 18, 2014 New York -- de trois cités records announces today that New York-based jazz pianist & composer, Takeshi Asai's new CD "French Trio, Vol.1" is released world-wide on April 1, 2014.

"A fresh perspective. The music throughout "French Trio, Vo.l 1" has elements of jazz, classical and pop that is combined in a way that is fresh and extremely musical."



The CD was recorded in July 2013 in Angoulême, France, with Takeshi's good friends and great French jazz musicians, bassist Pascal Combeau and drummer Maxime Legrand. The album features Takeshi's original compositions written especially for the trio.

The project started with Takeshi's unique vision and writing mind as a composer. Born and raised in modern Japan, where all kinds of music, jazz

to classical to both traditional and contemporary Japanese music were performed, his music background was eclectic and highly sophisticated even before he came to New York to become a professional jazz pianist.

The origin of the French trio was marked by the pianist's encounter with French drummer, Maxime Legrand in the summer of 2011. Takeshi has already established a career in Asia and the United States, but he was fascinated by the sensitive yet dynamic drumming by Maxime, who has been a key figure in the jazz scene in Charente region as a sideman, bandleader and educator. And, it's Maxime who brought bassist Pascal Combeau to the trio. Authentic and very modern at the same time, Pascal has enjoyed a strong reputation as a reliable jazz bassist in France and in other countries including Japan. All of the three jazzmen together in this album, one can find the amalgam of the three individual musicians very strong and interestingly one-directional. Obviously, the two French musicians and one Japanese jazz pianist who lives and works in New York have a strong "lingua franca (common language)" in jazz.

The French audience wildly acclaimed the trio last summer, and the CD was recorded at the end of the same tour. In 2014, with the new CD being released, the trio will perform a series of CD Release Concert in France in July. The detail of the tour will be announced later.

French Trio, official site : fr3.takeshiasai.com

Takeshi Asai, official site: www.takeshiasai.com

Where to buy CD: [CD Baby](#)

Record label: de trois cités records (New York, Paris & Tokyo)

Engineer: Kim Ottogalli, Angoulême, France

Mastering: A/D Studio, Bordeaux, France

Artwork: Vanessa Briceño-Scherzer, ILU Media Design, Pennsylvania

Interview on Charente Libre 2013: Le jazz, "langage universel" selon Takeshi Asai (Le 19 Juillet par Florian DELAFOI)

<http://www.charentelibre.fr/2013/07/19/le-jazz-langage-universel-rendez-vous-a-vilhonneur-demain,1846764.php>



Takeshi Asai (piano)

Pascal Combeau (bass)

Maxime Legrand (drums)

Takeshi's New York Trio performs the New York version of the CD Release Concert in New York in April.

Thursday, April 24, 2014, 7:00 pm – 8:45 pm

Somethin' Jazz Club

212 E. 52nd St. 3Fl. (btw/ 2nd & 3rd Ave.) New York, NY 10022

phone: (212) 371-7657

Takeshi Asai (piano)

Daniel Ori (bass)

Russ Meissner (drums)

Reviews:

"A fresh perspective. The music throughout French Trio, Vol. 1 has elements of jazz, classical and pop that is combined in a way that is fresh and extremely musical." Jeff Williams, Kari-On Productions

"[T]he biggest surprise since the beginning of the year in the jazz trio category."
- Robert Ratajczak, RadioJAZZ.fm on Takeshi Asai's "New York Trio, Vol. 1"

"Amazingly fluid pianist"

- Michael Fressola, Arts Editor for Staten Island Advance

"Takeshi's trio was phenomenal."

- a fan in New York

"Tonight, your music made me want to draw again."

- on French Trio, An artist from Netherlands

"The real gem, shining brightly on this album is 'Le Crepuscule' referring to the most outstanding achievements in the world of jazz piano trio. Championship!"

- Robert Ratajczak, RadioJAZZ.fm

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Takeshi Asai

Profile: New York-based jazz pianist and composer, performing internationally in Europe, Asai and the U.S. His scope of work covers from jazz, film compositions, Broadway theaters to electric music.

Takeshi's Official Website: www.takeshiasai.com