



WELCOME HOME by Jean-Michel Pilc Trio

Innovative, exuberant and controversial are three adjectives that best describe the Jean Michel Pilc Trio. The award-winning pianist (Pilc received France's prestigious Django Reinhardt Prize 2000) has found both popular appeal and intellectual appreciation in Europe and more recently in the USA. Their latest release on Dreyfus Jazz, *WELCOME HOME*, offers listeners 14 emotionally intense and musically sophisticated renditions of some of jazz's greatest composers as well as a taste of Pilc's extraordinary writing skills. The trio gets off to a blazing start with Miles Davis' "So What." They blaze through the song with a blistering tempo, setting the piece's modal impressionism in a new context that provides a thoughtful and comprehensive free jazz arrangement for Pilc's listeners. "Stella By Starlight" shows Pilc's piano mastery with a filigree delicacy that blossoms into invigorating crescendos. Pilc's originals, "Autumn In Newfane," "Serial Mother Blues," "Welcome Home," and "Beginning," which is a part of a trio sonata created for Chamber Music America, soar with imaginative solos from the individual talents of bassist Francois Moutin and drummer Ari Hoenig. One of the most memorable bass and drum solo sections is played on "Colchiques Dans Les Pres" in which bassist Moutin matches Pilc's piano virtuosity note-for-note with his remarkable rhythmic intensity. Drummer Ari Hoenig returns answers to Pilc's calls and together they bring it on back to the head with a gentle, smouldering fire. They are smoking on this set and if you're not hip to Jean-Michel Pilc, then get ready for one of the most exciting piano, bass and drums trios on the jazz scene today that's both heady and hip! Man, this set is blazing. -->WELCOME HOME



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