

Artist/Title

# Oslo String Quartet Jumping Wide

Label

fabra

FBRCD-06

1. In The Mood (Joe Garland) 2'11" 2. Take Five (Brubeck/Desmond) 3'19" 3. The Kid From Red Bank (Neil Hefti) 2'27" 4. Visa från Utanmyra (Trad. arr: Jan Johansson) 4'10" 5. Waterloo (Benny Andersson/Björn Ulvaeus/Stikkan Anderson) 2'33" 6. Trumpet Involuntary (Horst Jankowski, Ervan Coleman, Julius Wechter) 3'12" 7. Summertime (George Gershwin/Ira Gershwin) Soprano: Isa Gericke 3'20" 8. Le Reel du Forgeron (La Bottine Souriante) 2'34" 9. Fairytale (Alexander Rybak) Vocal: Are Sandbakken 2'52" 10. Ay Candela (Faustino Oramas Osorio) Lead vocal: Ernesto Manuitt Hernández, chorus and percussion: Signe Asmussen Manuitt 4'34"

The Oslo String Quartet might seem a somewhat contradictory phenomenon: Firstly, in spite of its name, none of the members are actually from Oslo; in fact, the majority of concerts take place outside the capital or abroad.

Secondly, in string quartet terms the group is relatively old (celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2011), yet it is brand new in several respects: new second violinist, renewed repertoire of classical, romantic and contemporary works, new (actually very old) instruments; in short, a new lease of life for the next 20 years! Thirdly, the quartet has performed for audiences of up to 5000, while on occasion passers-by have had to be virtually dragged into the empty hall! We play music for select connoisseurs, yet the potential mass appeal is unlimited.

Last, but not least, the Oslo String Quartet is often considered an intensely serious group with a penchant for Beethoven, but in fact we regularly spring out in the most outrageous ways: from performing complete Tosca for string quartet, singers and kitchenware to starring in the blockbuster (well, hardly...) movie “The hunt for the Beethoven Code”

(at some point wearing only diapers...), to yodelling, clad in authentic Alpen-costume. But from the perspective of the four members of the Oslo String Quartet the above is not at all contradictory; in fact, we love reconciling the seemingly opposites.

Enter  
*Jumping Wide!*

You are now the proud owner of the sequel to the hugely successful album “Oslo String Quartet Falling Upwards” from 2003. In order to sustain some of that success through this new release, we have decided to follow the same, proven formula of choosing mainly tunes that made a lasting impression upon the arranger during childhood. So hopefully you will forgive us the rather sentimental journey along memory lane, but we suspect that the typical listener of this album is probably contemporary to most of the music on this album.

From all four of us

To all millions of you...

\*\*\*

**1. IN THE MOOD** for string quartet? We think you are!

**2. TAKE FIVE** might be regarded our tribute to the CD recording process. Countless tedious retakes and remakes in order to get it right. We hate it. But we also love it, because it gives us the freedom to experiment and to perfect. Still, there must be something wrong with this particular take. Where did this stupid swan in 4/4 come from? Producer?

**3.** During summertime most Norwegians are found listening to a summer holiday radio show that is world famous in Norway. The theme song is originally Neil Hefti’s affectionate homage to Count Basie, who is **THE KID FROM RED BANK** in person.

**4. VISA FRÅN UTANMYRA** (Tune from Utanmyra) is a fruitful collaboration between one particular Swede, Jan Johansson, and a host of unspecified Swedes contributing to one of Sweden’s many beautiful folk tunes. A classic.

**5.** The Oslo String Quartet has always been eager to receive inspiration from other quartets. In terms of success and fame, no

inspiration has been greater than that from another world famous quartet, namely Abba. This particularly fruitful Swedish collaboration has provided us with yet another classic: **WATERLOO**.

**6. Trumpeters around the world: beware!** Since the beginning of time there have been countless so-called “trumpet voluntaries”. We felt that there must be some room for a **TRUMPET INVOLUNTARY** in this world, so we provided one. In this medley of trumpet hits from the 60’s you will most probably experience several involuntary movements of the smile muscles.

7. The decision to include the evergreen **SUMMERTIME** on this record was not made only on account of its obvious musical qualities; it might just as well be seen as a rather clever marketing ploy by the quartet. With all this talk of global warming these days, practically everybody will soon relate to its sentiments and consequently buy this album. By the way, we are happy to present our long time collaborator and soprano, Isa Gericke.

**8.** In the wake of the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver and the formidable success of Norwegian female athlete Marit Bjørgen in the

ski track, Liv Hilde wondered if anyone from the quartet could display the same stamina and determination in a CD track. Have you got what it takes, Liv Hilde? Ready Steady... **LE REEL DU FORGERON** (The Blacksmith's Reel).

9. No crossover release from the Oslo String Quartet is complete without a smash hit from the Eurovision Song Contest. The 2009 winning song **FAIRYTALE** has become the greatest success of its kind for Norway to date. The fact that its author and performer Alexander Rybak used to study the violin with Geir Inge gives the present version a certain ring of authenticity, we feel.

**10.** What do you get if you cross one cowbell, a Cuban (Ernesto Manuitt Hernández), his Danish wife (Signe Asmussen Manuitt) and an adventurous string quartet from Norway? A hell of a salsa:

**AY CANDELA.**

© Copyright Derry Music Co./Air Chrysalis Scandinavia AB • 3. The Kid From Red Bank (Neil Hefti) © Copyright Warner/Chappell Music Scandinavia AB • 4. Visa från Utmynne Träd - arvi Jan Johansson © Copyright Shapiro Bernstein & Co Music Publishers • 2. Take Five (Brubeck/Desmond) © Copyright Bizon Livarese/Stikkan Anderson) © Copyright Universal Music Publishing AB • Spanish Flea (Julius Wechter) © Copyright Sony/ATV Music Publishing Scandinavia • 10. Ay Candia (Jaustino Oramas Osorio) © Copyright Universal Music Publishing AB • 7. Summer Time (George Gershwin/Ira Gershwin) © Copyright Warner/Chappell Music Scandinavia AB • 9. Fairytale (Alexanden Rysbak) © Copyright Universal Music Publishing AB • 6. Trumpet Involuntary • Walk in the black Forest (Org. "Schwarzwaldfahrt") (Hovst-Jani Jankowski) © Copyright Universal Music Publishing AB • 8. Waterbo (Benny Andersson/Björn Ulvén) © Copyright MGB Scandinavia AB • 1. In the Mood (Joe Garland)





All arrangements by Dystein Sonstad. Recorded at Sofienberg Kirke in Oslo, January and March 2010. Producer, engineer and editor: Jørn Pedersen [www.takeone.no](http://www.takeone.no). Liner notes: Dystein Sonstad. Design & photography: Erik Johan Worsøe Eriksen, Skin Designstudio. The Oslo String Quartet is supported by Norsk Kulturråd (Arts Council Norway).

The Oslo String Quartet performs on instruments provided by Dextra Musica AS.

[www.stringquartet.com](http://www.stringquartet.com)    [www.fabra.no](http://www.fabra.no)

 Oslo String Quartet



NORSK KULTURRÅD  
Arts Council Norway