

The Tobias Meinhart Quintet – a Night of Jazz at the German House

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The Tobias Meinhart Quintet played to a sold out crowd.

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It is not every night that there is a full house at the German Consulate General's Auditorium. Though with their promise of an incredible night of Jazz, the Tobias Meinhart Quintet was able to draw a crowd of over 120 people.

In a city of roughly 30,000 saxophone players, Tobias Meinhart stands out as “one of the biggest saxophone talents in Europe”. And he knows how to surround himself with the best: Trumpet player Ingrid Jensen, Yago Vazquez on piano, bass player Pablo Menares and Jesse Simpson on drums. Each of whom were given their chance to show off their talent, to play a solo and to improvise. The admiration they had for each other's artistry was not only visible, but vocal, with Jensen (and members of the audience) exclaiming “yeah!” after particularly well executed solos. Because of this, and because it was Jazz being played in New York – a very winning combination - the mood of the crowd matched the excitement and delight of the musicians.

The hour long concert of Meinhart's own compositions and rearranged Jazz classics, closed with a medley of “The Dark Eyes of Tomorrow” and “You're my Everything” from their latest album “Natural Perception”. The focus and intention of the album is to show the power of musicians working together and following their instincts. This was successfully translated into the performances throughout the evening: it seemed only natural for them to be playing together and for the crowd to enjoy it so much.

The evening ended with a reception in the Lobby of the German House, where artists and concert goers could share a glass of wine and a pretzel. If it hadn't become clear before, the happy mingling here showed everybody left the concert in high spirits. To energize you after a long day of work, there is really nothing like an evening of excellent New York Jazz.