

WE WERE THERE

Reijseger Fraanje Sylla



**“WHAT HAS BEEN STRANGE BECOMES FAMILIAR.
AND WHAT HAS BEEN FAMILIAR ACQUIRES THE GLOW
OF MYSTERY. A BEAUTIFUL ALBUM”**

(Werner Herzog)

“AMONG THE WORLD’S GREAT BANDS.”

(Sydney Morning Herald)

**ERNST REIJSEGER - CELLO
HARMEN FRAANJE - PIANO
MOLA SYLLA - VOICE, XALAM, M’BIRA**

photos by krijnvannoordwijk.com

ABOUT

The music of Reijseger Fraanje Sylla has been described as ‘the perfect amalgam of jazz, African songs and classical music’. The trio has released two albums for Winter and Winter and made the music for several films by well known filmmaker [Werner Herzog](#).

In March 2020 the third trio album ‘We Were There’ will be released by Just Listen Records, a label devoted to hi resolution audio recording.

‘Cellist Ernst Reijseger, pianist Harmen Fraanje and Senegalese singer-percussionist Mola Sylla are able to create their own language on stage like no one else; and although it might not be directly understood, it can be felt very clearly’.

The trio makes fierce and beautiful music that is also melancholy and always heavily supported by the excellent voice of their African singer. The exuberant, improvised piano playing of Fraanje and the subtle melodies of Reijseger make for an eclectic, sometimes spiritual whole where nothing is what it seems.”

(1) QUOTE BY NORTH SEA JAZZ FESTIVAL, ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

(2) QUOTE BY JOHN KELMAN, ALLABOUTJAZZ, USA

COLLABORATION

Trio Reijseger Fraanje Sylla is creative partner of musicians, poets, dancers, actors, painters, sculptors, photographers and film makers. The trio’s musical collaborations include improvised and jazz music (Louis Moholo, Luciano Biondini, Fredrik Ljungkvist), classical and baroque music (Erik Bosgraaf), traditional music (Groove Léle from Reunion Island, Tenore e Concorde de Orosei from Sardinia, Ferenc Kovács and Kálmán Balogh from Hungary, Rónán Ó Snodaigh from Ireland).

Reijseger Fraanje Sylla worked together with photographers Krijn van Noordwijk and Myles O’Reilley. And they performed live during the award ceremonies of several World Press Photo editions.

VIDEOS

- Excerpts from the album ‘[We Were There](#)’, release in March 2020
- A [video](#) by Myles O’Reilley who joined the trio during a tour in Switzerland and Germany.
- Here’s a link to a live concert of the trio at the [Bimhuis](#), Amsterdam, performing Raykwela.
- Werner Herzog filming Ernst Reijseger and Harmen Fraanje while recording the film score for the movie ‘[Cave of Forgotten Dreams](#)’ and the installation ‘Hearsay of the Soul’.

WERNER HERZOG

The trio made film music for several movies by Werner Herzog:

- My Son, My Son, What Have Ye Done (2009)
- Cave of Forgotten Dreams (2010)
- Ode to the Dawn of Man (2011)
- Salt and Fire (2016)
- Nomad: In the Footsteps of Bruce Chatwin (2019)
- Family Romance, LLC (2019)

The music and films about and by the trio are used in installations by Werner Herzog, exhibited at the the [J Paul Getty Museum](#) in Los Angeles and the Whitney Museum in New York.

In 2012 the trio performed two nights with Werner Herzog at the Volksbühne in Berlin.

The trio also made film scores for Alex & Andrew Smith, Ingrid van der Linde and Roberto Zazzara.

DISCOGRAPHY



WE WERE THERE
Just Listen Records
2020

01. Boulmamine Mola Sylla
02. Xeeg Mola Sylla
03. 51 Harmen Fraanje
04. Bodensee Harmen Fraanje
05. Landscape of the Soul Ernst Reijseger
06. Charlotte Harmen Fraanje
07. Albatross Harmen Fraanje
08. Koluté Mola Sylla
09. Biruta Ernst Reijseger
10. Raykwela Ernst Reijseger
11. Were you there Ernst Reijseger



COUNT TILL ZEN
Winter & Winter
2015

01. Perhaps Harmen Fraanje
02. Bakou Mola Sylla
03. Badola Marco Zenini
04. Count till Zen Harmen Fraanje
05. Headstream Ernst Reijseger
06. Debenti Harmen Fraanje
07. Out of the Wilderness Harmen Fraanje
08. Falémé Mola Sylla
09. E Konkon Ernst Reijseger
10. Friuli Harmen Fraanje



DOWN DEEP

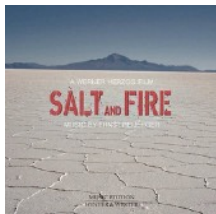
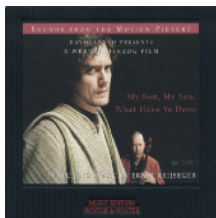
Winter & Winter

2013

01. Elena Ernst Reijseger
02. M'br Mola Sylla
03. Amerigo Malik Mezzadri
04. Shaped by the Tide Harmen Fraanje
05. Hemisacraal Ernst Reijseger
06. E Lucevan le Stelle Giacomo Puccini
07. Ana Mola Sylla
08. Down Deep Ernst Reijseger
09. Her Eyes Harmen Fraanje

| [Spotify](#) | [Apple Music](#) |

RELATED DISCOGRAPHY



PERFORMANCES

Trio Reijseger Fraanje Sylla performed at festivals and venues like:

London Jazz Festival, Paris Jazz Festival, Tampere Jazz Meeting, Cully Jazz Festival, Kronberg Cello Festival, North Sea Jazz Festival, Rio de Janeiro Cello Festival, Grahamstown South Africa, Heineken Jazzaldia San Sebastian, Reunion Island Festival, Vicenza Festival, Saalfelden Austria, Sori Festival South Korea, Moscow, Novosibirsk, Tomsk, Dublin Festival, Bray Jazz Festival, Cello Biennale Amsterdam, Nantes, Vilnius Jazz Festival, Sines Portugal, Ljubljana, Budapest, Bordeaux, Udine, Katowice, Sopot, Grenoble Fest, Sudtiroler Festival Bolzano, Gibellina Festival, Guelph Canada, Torino Festival, Lugano, Munich, Vienna, Mestre, amongst others...

REVIEWS

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD (AUS)

'This extraordinary album is the most thorough integration of jazz, African music and classical elements I have heard.'

VOLKSKRANT (NL)

'The trio shows unconditional dedication to the moment, the music and to each other.'
'Intimidatingly beautiful'

LOS ANGELES TIMES (USA)

'Played with an unforced expressive honesty.'

WERNER HERZOG (GER/USA)

'What has been strange becomes familiar.
And what has been familiar acquires the glow of mystery. A beautiful album.'

CONTACT INFORMATION

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