

Kari Ikonen Trio (FIN)

Kari Ikonen - piano // Olli Rantala - double bass // Markku Ounaskari - drums



"Kari Ikonen Trio achieve an ensemble sound that is fresh, subtle, and tickled by gentle surprises." -Joe Woodard, DownBeat (USA)

"Gorgeously colored by chiming piano percussion, cello-esque bowed bass and shimmering cymbal work, the Kari Ikonen Trio exemplify a distinctly Scandinavian collective work ethic (...) Ikonen, a former winner of Finland's Jazz Musician of the Year award, is a serious artist making work with a color and conviction worthy of any of today's leading European three-pieces." -All About Jazz (Hong Kong Jazz Festival 2018)

"This is a wholly original take on the improvising piano trio." -Jazz Journal (UK)

"Kari Ikonen Trio grabbed the moment with an assured and highly imaginative display of contemporary piano trio aesthetics." -Jon Newey, Jazzwise (UK)

"One of the highlight sets of the 2017 Wangaratta Festival of Jazz" -Mal Stanley, ABC Jazz (AUS)

The Finnish **Kari Ikonen Trio** is praised for their original, lively style. Their three albums, **Bright** (2013), **Beauteous Tales and Offbeat Stories** (2015) and **Wind, Frost & Radiation** (2018) on German label Ozella have gained a lot of international success, making the band busy playing at clubs and festivals all over Europe, Asia, Australia and the USA.

Besides of the trio, the pianist-moogist-composer **Kari Ikonen** (b.1973) is currently active with several other bands like *Orchestra Nazionale della Luna*, *Quartet Ajaton* and *Trio Toffa* - and different projects with Louis Sclavis, Bob Moses, Tom Arthurs, Ingrid Jensen, Jeff Denson, Vincent Courtois and Juhani Aaltonen. Ikonen has won several international awards for his compositions, and in 2013 he received the Yrjö Award as the Finnish Jazz Musician of the Year. Bassist **Olli Rantala** (b. 1981) studied at Gothenburg University with the master Anders Jormin. Today he is an essential part of the Swedish jazz and world music scene. He plays in KIT since 2016. ECM recording artist, **Markku Ounaskari** (b.1967) is known for his work with Jarmo Savolainen and Pekka Pohjola. Today he plays regularly with artists such as Kristjan Randalu, Arve Henriksen, Trygve Seim and Raoul Björkenheim. Markku got the Yrjö award in 2014.

Music, video, photos, reviews, news, tour dates, & info: www.kariikonon.com

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