

INSIDE

reviews

“walking straight through the heart“

“new cd from sabina hank frantically acclaimed in “oval:“ that she has an unbelievable feeling for setting german lyrics to music sabina hank proved with willi resetarits and the “abendlieder.“ with “inside,“ the multi-talent has kicked open new doors. with very personal songs that touch anyone’s heart that was ever (unhappily) in love.

sabina hank sings about love. genuine love. and that as everyone knows is not sugary sweet and picky, but rather tenderly bitter. despite heavy thoughts, the music floats easily above the lyrics, fragile moments align themselves alongside the wildly pulsating. precisely as in love. to think about which shelf the album belongs on is wasted energy. it would be better to open up the way for a walk through your own heart.“

(kronenzeitung (A), 2007)

“the charm of vulnerability“

“the aphorism that good songs are like tattoos because they get you under the skin stems from joni mitchell. the austrian songwriter sabina hank proves with her newest cd that she also has something to say on this subject. the title alone, “inside,“ lets you surmise that sabina hank is not just a chanteuse who would like to bring nice music to people. no, for her it’s a matter of touching her fellow-man while making herself touchable, vulnerable. that the salzburg musician does with disarming honesty and seriousness, whereby she succeeds in giving her songs a dimension of universal validity inspite of all their intimacy. sabina hank’s newest album is romantic and uncompromising --- a further recording moment in the career of an artist who knows more precisely from year to year what she wants and can do.“

(concerto (A), 2007)

“something’s happening in schnitzel country: austrian lady-musicians on the march“

“the country has to be aware now of that lady who cultivates native diction and makes music magnificently. not artificial, quick hit-trimmed fast-food, but rather introverted songwriting. these are flowers from another world that show up, a world that allows growth in its positive slowness. home hype snubbed, fertilized with perseverance and correspondingly powerfully grown up. (...)

sabina hank - pianist, singer, composer and author.

so far, her career has taken her to numerous jazz festivals around the globe, she has written songs for films and the theater and has also had the joy of working with mr. kurt ostbahn.

"inside" is the name of her current cd (universal) that one actually has to research. the lady sings here and now german. this is new and very exciting. her english lyrics are not simply germanized, rather the german made approachable. the salzburger josh vanderberg, among others, helped her. hank and vanderberg found themselves together again on about half of the songs on the cd. with the others, under the titles in the booklet it says "hank/hank." (...)

the tenderness and the depth of the songs as well as ms. hank's voice grab anyone, gender overlapping, who dares to open a tiny door to their emotions."

(musikmarkt (D), 2007)

"honest"

her music is marked by an enormous seriousness, her being by joy and love of life. sabina hank, singer, pianist and composer, is convincing in both worlds with honesty. she comes on quiet soles but she leaves very teutonic tracks. with her first german-language album, sabina hank manages the feat of writing songs full of content as well as lyric excellence and bedding them in arrangements that then turn intense listening into a true experience. a sensitive musician presents herself here, who lays open her soul and expresses herself musically quite calmly."

(oberösterr. nachrichten (A), 2007)

"bad luck is easier"

"german instead of english, songwriting instead of jazz, teamwork instead of egomania --- on her fifth album "inside" the salzburg musician goes new ways. actually, sabina hank comes from the classics. whoever has heard her earlier albums would classify her under jazz. her new album "inside" is inspired by songwriting. one can't reproach the salzburg pianist and singer for not wanting to try out something new. on the contrary: the step that she takes with her new disc is as big as it is risky.

'singing in german is baring one's soul,' she confesses, 'but it soon became heaven on earth. everything that you're ashamed of only blocks you. there is nothing in life that isn't human. so why not come out with it?'

(now! (A), 2007)

"the power of love"

"sabina hank fans will be doubly rewarded with her fine album "inside" since the 12 songs are going to be released in two versions. the regional issue in german and as of June 2007, the international version in the english language.

together with alex meik on double bass and chorus as well as stephan maass with diverse percussions - he is also responsible with dieter kolbeck for the production. the trio formation is most accomodating to the sympathetic musician, so there's no

danger that the songs will be over produced. what stretches in front of you are deep paths of feeling between apparently endless states of happiness and threatening obscurity, well, at least doubt that happiness is perhaps just merely pretense.

the levels distributed straight through the album are of a multi-layered nature yet still some critical voices say that hank sings 'only about love.' that's true, she only sings about love but love is many-faceted and it is entirely wrong to just devote yourself superficially to the album. once you submerge into the album then several absolutely beautiful moments open up which you won't want to miss. "inside" is a splendid, powerful as playful album with high musical density and remarkable melodies. the three musicians literally blossom on the album and manage to make a large band out of the small formation of a trio.

(kulturwoche (A), 2007)

"barely passed by happiness"

" 'it's about striving for happiness. happiness may never be attained.'

sabina hank, classically-trained salzburg piano-great, jazz singer, songwriter, celebrates with "inside" her major label debut. the first concerts with the new repertoire in salzburg's oval or vienna's porgy & bess turned out to be triumphs."

(die presse (A), 2007)

"inside"

the salzburg exceptional talent sabina hank was most convincing on thursday with german lyrics and the lightness of being at her cd presentation in OVAL.

sabina hank and german song texts, can that function? at her concert in OVAL one could convince oneself that it doesn't really matter in which language she sings when she lets her feelings speak. moreover, it seems as if the artist took more time with her new album "inside" than with the previous one. tones convert with ease into picturesque sound colors. glances stray. and precisely as in one of her song texts 'one gets lost in a dream.' time and space melt in the hall and a sensual atmosphere spreads out.

(drehpunktkultur (A), 2007)

"love is a german word"

"twelve songs as if out of one cast. performed by a strong, very present voice. accompanied by

a restrained yet sometimes prominently positioned piano. in addition, cleverly placed bass lines join along and a sensitively dosed percussion. the songs are refinedly simple. it's a question of love, its pits and its roller coaster of feelings. the music is comparable to the work of diana krall. when, yes when you're listening for the first time if only this one irritating point weren't there: the german language. (...) that bias disappears the more you listen and the beauty of the lyrics open up.

(salzburger nachrichten (A), 2007)

