

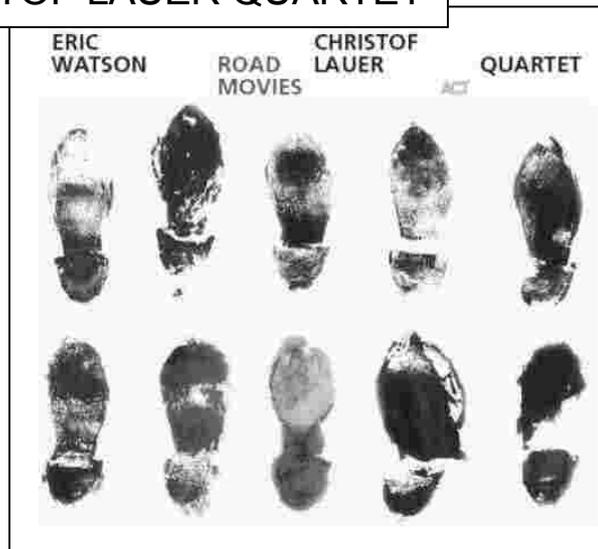


## ERIC WATSON – CHRISTOF LAUER QUARTET

ROAD MOVIES

ACT 9429-2

LC 07644



Release Date: 23. August 2004

**Power. Let's get straight to the point. The great fascination of this group led by pianist Eric Watson and saxophonist Christof Lauer is the enormous power which the quartet knows well how to harness.**

**Everything else that we can expect from these gentlemen** follows on naturally. In Lauer's case, it's the overflowing imagination, fired by a stupendous technical virtuosity through which every idea is realisable and which is able to consider the feasible potential of any idea from all directions: not just the various musical structures from bebop patterns to Coltrane's "sheets of sound", but also the heart-melting ballads, the wonderful kaleidoscope of tones from deep sonorities to imperious overtones. It's the free collective spirit that gives enough space for subliminal encounters and intelligently disguised references to themes.

**American Eric Watson**, who has been living in Paris since 1978, is a musician with global dimensions. Already during his studies he balanced his interests in classical and jazz; even though jazz has now taken prime position, he is still considered the ideal interpreter of the piano music of Charles Ives. As a jazz musician he has travelled the world, with Steve Lacy, Ed Thigpen, Paul Motian, Albert Mangelsdorff, and innumerable others. A musician able to cross boundaries like no other in every context, his wide-ranging experiences light a vital will o' the wisp. Angular Monk-like remembrances mix easily with the modern contemporary sounds of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, spiky thundering free jazz extensions, abstractions from the school of Lennie Tristano with the drive of a Buddy Rich.

**Eric Watson and Christof Lauer** have met regularly for radio recordings with the Hessischer Rundfunk Jazz Ensemble and have been good friends for a very long time. What they bring to this quartet with the young French rhythm section of Christophe Marguet and Claude Tchamitchian (who have collaborated with many including Henri Texier, Kenny Wheeler, Bud Shank, Daunik Lazro, Joe McPhee and Raymond Boni. .) is not what might be initially expected - or at least a particular aspect: the joy of playing together, the rhythmic nuances, the understanding of the body-swaying 4-4 swing, the rhythmic forces, which raise the roof, and the hot challenging accompaniment of Watson's piano which launches Lauer into the stratosphere - a music ripe with a power which brings it into a class of its own.

**ACT****ERIC WATSON & CHRISTOF LAUER****The CD:**

Road Movies – Eric Watson-Christof Lauer Quartet - ACT 9429-2 – LC 07644

**Line Up:**

Eric Watson – piano  
Christof Lauer – tenor & soprano saxophones  
Claude Tchamitchan – double bass  
Christophe Marguet – drums

Produced by Eric Watson

Executive Producer: Siegfried Loch

Recorded at Studio La Buissonne, Pernes les Fontaines, France on July 31 and August 1, 2003 and mixed on September 15, 2003 by Gerard de Haro.

**Tracks:**

- 01 Road Movies
- 02 Road Runners
- 03 The Last Goodbye
- 04 Hardware
- 05 Situation Tragedy
- 06 Inroads
- 07 Hard As Nails

All compositions Eric Watson

**Christof Lauer on ACT:**

ACT 9420-2 HEAVEN – Christof Lauer & Norwegian Brass mit Geir Lysne, Sondre Bratland, Rebekka Bakken

ACT 9415-2 PURE JOY – Jens Thomas & Christof Lauer

ACT 9297-2 SHADOWS IN THE RAIN – Christof Lauer & Jens Thomas, special guest: Sidsel Endresen

ACT 9266-2 FRAGILE NETWORK – Christof Lauer mit Marc Ducret, Michel Godard u.a.

**Distributor:**

edel Contraire (D), edel Records (A), Musikvertrieb (CH), Night & Day (F), Proper Music (UK), Karonte (E), Dargil (P), Musikklosen (N), Amigo (Scan), A&N Records (GR), Equinox Music (TR), Culture Records (Benelux), Jazzworld (HK), GIGI Distribution (PL), AS Jahipaun (EST), C&L Records (ROK), P&J Music (CZ), Distribution Fusion III (CAN), CD Bar (H)

**THE ACT COMPANY**

Ehrengutstrasse 28, 80469 München, Germany  
Phone +49 89 72 94 92 0, Fax +49 89 72 94 92 11  
e-mail: [info@actmusic.com](mailto:info@actmusic.com)  
Visit our website at <http://www.actmusic.com>