

# ACT

## Magic Moments 8

Sing Hallelujah  
ACT 9599-2

German release date: August 28, 2015

The eighth edition of the popular series **Magic Moments** is a 71-minute musical joyride through the current ACT release schedule, and features not just the stars of the label but also its newcomers and discoveries. The ACT label's proprietor and producer-in-chief Siggie Loch has put together a programme of sixteen tracks, under the title "Sing Hallelujah."

**Encompassing jazz, soul, gospel and Afro-American roots music**, it is yet another example of the Munich-based label defining itself by the will to be different, and by steering well clear of predictable and well-trodden paths. This is music "in the spirit of jazz," which slips effortlessly between genres. It is fresh and up-to-date, and refuses to be a slave to any pre-ordained style.

**Magic Moments 8, "Sing Hallelujah" places the vocal artists of ACT in the spotlight.** The collection opens with soul-blues legend Mighty Sam McClain, who died very recently. He is heard here with Knut Reiersrud, the Norwegian guitarist. Reiersrud himself is also heard later on another track with singer Solveig Slettahjell and the trio In The Country. They perform "Borrowed Time" from the album "Trail of Souls," a CD which marries the American gospel and spiritual traditions with a Norwegian sound aesthetic.

**The title track "Sing Hallelujah," a song by Mike Settle, is sung by Torsten Goods.** He is surrounded by an all-star band of Roberto Di Gioia, Tim Lefebvre and Wolfgang Haffner, and delivers the song with his characteristic cool and nonchalance. Ida Sand has one track "Hey Hey, My My," in which she honours Neil Young.

**The voice of Natalia Mateo "has a story all of its own to tell,"** in the words of Die Zeit. Mateo gives "I Put a Spell on You," - sung in the fifties by American blues singer Screamin' Jay Hawkins, and later a huge hit for Nina Simone – a treatment which is bound to take people by surprise.

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**Norwegian singer-songwriter Randi Tytingvåg shows her genuine class on "Steady Going,"** a song with its roots in American folk and country music. Drummer Wolfgang Haffner in "Piano Man" brings vocals to his "Kind of Cool" group with the powerful soul singer Max Mutzke.

**The final tracks of Magic Moments 8 are all instrumentals, but they could not be more varied and contrasted.** Bassist Dieter Ilg with his regular trio interpret Beethoven; liron Rantala plays John Lennon's "Imagine" alone at the piano; saxophonist Rudresh Mahanthappa, a 3-time Downbeat winner in 2015, honours the great Charlie Parker with "Bird Calls.

**The old cowhand shout of Yippee Ki Yay....in Berlin?** Kalle Kallema the Finnish guitarist now makes his home in the German capital and his trio's take on the western classic "Ghost Riders In the Sky," by Stan Jones and the Death Valley Rangers really does bring High Noon to the mean streets of Kreuzberg.

**Pianist Frank Woeste, born in Hannover, is a new face on the ACT Label.** He has been a major and consistent success in France where he now lives, and where he frequently performs with Ibrahim Maalouf and Youn Sun Nah. Here the singer brings her unique and inimitable voice to "Star Gazer."

**"If music be the food of love, play on," begins Shakespeare's comedy Twelfth Night.** Add the words "...and of life," and what results is an artistic credo, the philosophy which underlies all that the ACT label does. Siggie Loch and his team have been producing nourishing music for the past 23 years with an unstinting passion and an instinct for quality. This is music which goes straight to the hearts and minds of people whose ears are open to the unexpected, and who love good music. "Magic Moments 8" is 100% true to that vision.

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- 01 TOO PROUD** (Carlene Carter) 5:18 Album: Tears Of The World, ACT 9033-2 (vinyl available)  
Mighty Sam McClain, voc / Knut Reiersrud, git & harp / Bjørn Holm, git / David Wallumrød, organ / Nikolai Hængsle Eilertsen, b / Andreas Bye, dr
- 02 SING HALLELUJAH** (Mike Settle) 3:33 Album: Thank You Baby!, ACT 9731-2  
Torsten Goods, git & voc / Roberto Di Gioia, Fender Rhodes / Tim Lefebvre, b / Wolfgang Haffner, dr
- 03 HEY HEY, MY MY** (Neil Young) 3:13 Album: Young At Heart, ACT 9729-2  
Ida Sand, voc & p / Nils Landgren, tb / Jesper Nordenström, keys / Ola Gustafsson, git / Dan Berglund, b / Christer Jansson, dr
- 04 BORROWED TIME** (James Anderson) 4:40 Album: Trail of Souls, ACT 9593-2 (vinyl available)  
Solveig Slettahjell, voc / Knut Reiersrud, git / Morten Qvenild, keys / Roger Arntzen, b / Pål Hausken, dr
- 05 BIRD CALLS #1** (Rudresh Mahanthappa) 2:51 Album: Bird Calls, ACT 9581-2 (vinyl available)  
Rudresh Mahanthappa, alto sax / Adam O'Farrill, tp / Matt Mitchell, p / François Moutin, b / Rudy Royston, dr
- 06 I PUT A SPELL ON YOU** (Jay Hawkins) 3:17 Album: Heart of Darkness, ACT 9730-2  
Natalia Mateo, voc / Gregor Lener, tp / Simon Grote, p / Dany Ahmad, git / Christopher Bolte, b / Fabian Ristau, dr
- 07 THE STAR GAZER** (Frank Woeste / Youn Sun Nah) 5:59 Album: Pocket Rhapsody, ACT 9587-2\*  
Frank Woeste, p & keys / Youn Sun Nah, voc / Justin Brown, dr / Sarah Nemtanu, violin / Gregoire Korniluk, cello
- 08 LIBERETTO CANTABILE** (Lars Danielsson / Cæcilie Norby) 4:26 Album: Just The Two Of Us, ACT 9732-2  
Cæcilie Norby, voc / Lars Danielsson, b & cello
- 09 ADAGIO** (Ludwig van Beethoven / arr. by Dieter Ilg) 4:50 Album: Mein Beethoven, ACT 9582-2  
Dieter Ilg, b / Rainer Böhm, p / Patrice Héral, dr
- 10 PIANO MAN** (Billy Eckstein / Sid Kuller) 5:04 Album: Kind of Cool, ACT 9576-2 (vinyl available)  
Wolfgang Haffner, dr / Max Mutzke, voc / Frank Chastenier, p / Christian von Kaphengst, b
- 11 99** (Romain Collin) 2:04 Album: Press Enter, ACT 9583-2  
Romain Collin, p & sound design / Megan Rose, voice / Luques Curtis, b / Kendrick Scott, dr / Laura Metcalf, cello
- 12 GHOST RIDERS IN THE SKY** (Stan Jones) 5:12 Album: High Noon in Kreuzberg, ACT 9596-2\*  
Kalle Kalima, git / Greg Cohen, b / Max Andrzejewski, dr
- 13 STEADY-GOING** (Randi Tytingvåg) 3:12 Album: Three, EMO 4002-2  
Randi Tytingvåg, voc / Dag S. Vagle, git & voc / Erlend Aasland, banjo & voc
- 14 JUST SAY I LOVE HER** (Rodolfo Falvo / arr. by Jukka Perko) 5:01 Album: It Takes Two To Tango, ACT 9629-2  
Jukka Perko, alto sax / Iiro Rantala, p
- 15 SOUTH AFRICA** (Régis Gizavo) 7:02 Album: Jazz at Berlin Philharmonic IV: Accordion Night, ACT 9589-2  
Régis Gizavo, acc & voc / Nguyễn Lê, git
- 16 IMAGINE** (John Lennon) 4:36 Album: My Working Class Hero, ACT 9597-2 (vinyl available)  
Iiro Rantala, p

Total time: 71:10

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Mastered by Klaus Scheuermann

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\* previously not released

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