

Zanussi Five consists of five strong players from the new, fresh generation of Norwegian Jazz. Three of the hottest sax players in Norway with one of the most exciting and interesting rhythm sections plays compositions by band leader Per Zanussi. The result is an extrovert and slightly surrealist mix of swinging grooves, energetic free jazz and beautiful melodies. Two qualities often mentioned about Zanussi Five is their tremendous joy of playing and their incredible energy, often resulting in ecstatic audiences. Zanussi Five release their first record on Swedish label Moserobie the 24th of February 05.

Per Zanussi (Double Bass) is one of the most exciting young bass players on the Norwegian jazz scene.

In addition to own group Zanussi Five he is a member of MZN3, Ebersson/Zanussi/Lofthus Trio, Petter Wettre Quintet, Jon Christensen Trio, Sternklang and formerly Wibutee. Zanussi is also a prolific composer. He has made music for theatre performances for Det Norske Teatret and Haugesund Teater and music for dance performances and short films as well as composing for most of his groups.

In the past Zanussi has cooperated with names like Bugge Wesseltoft, Sten Sandell, Kjell Nordeson, Paal Nilssen-Love, Håvard Wiik, Thomas Strønen, Nils Olav Johansen et al.

Kjetil Møster (tenor sax) is currently working with jazz projects like The Core, MZN3 and Gibrish with great success. Møster also plays with famed Norwegian rock band King Midas. He has also performed with Håvard Wiik, Jon Christensen, Sten Sandell, Jarle Vespestad, Paal Nilssen-Love, Ingebrigt Flaten, Maja S.K. Ratkje, Hild Sofie Tafjord, Per Oddvar Johansen, Ketil Gutvik, Johannes Eick, Mathias Eick and others.

Rolf Erik Nystrøm (alto sax) has performed as a soloist with the philharmonic orchestras of Bergen, Oslo and Stavanger as well as the Norwegian and Swedish Radio Orchestras. He has composed music for plays, performs on over 30 records and has gotten more than 50 pieces composed for him. Nystrøm plays with groups like HERO, Poing and Dozo.

Eirik Hegdal (baritone- and alto sax) leads and plays with Dingobats and Erlend Skomsvolls Skomsork. Hegdal is also an accomplished composer and has successfully led big bands like Trondheim Jazzorkester. He has played with names like Fredrik Lundin, Toku, Fredrik Ljungkvist, Pat Metheny, Marilyn Mazur et al.

Per Oddvar Johansen (drums and percussion) has for the last ten years been one of the greatest norwegian jazz drummers. After his breakthrough with Aiamero in the early nineties he has played with groups including Close Erase, Trygve Seim Orchestra, 1300 Oslo, The Source, Petter Wettre/P.O.Johansen Duo and Christian Wallumrød Ensemble. Johansen has won 3 Grammys and has worked with names like Kenny Wheeler, Karin Krog, John Surman, Arild Andersen, Jon Balke, Nils Petter Molvær et al.