

Konzert - Steven Santoro - Luther Church 30.06.2017

Duisburg: As part of Intermezzo Concerts, now in its 14th season, Steven Santoro graced the stage at Luther Church. Throughout his career he has performed with numerous jazz greats such as Nathan East, Mitchell Forman and Carlos Vega. As a back-up vocalist for Sting he co-created that group's inimitable sound. Steven Santoro's songs are a perfect meld of contemporary jazz and



pop, backed up by great technique, style, spirit and originality. With impeccable intonation and phrasing, his voice navigates through various genres, is pliable, expressive, soft and emphatic without ever losing its natural sound. Santoro is a high caliber performer who doesn't allow himself to be pigeonholed. His passionate voice contains more than a mere sliver of Stevie Wonder's jazzy side. Santoro manages, almost playfully, to combine elements of jazz, R&B and pop vocally and lyrically into an extraordinary, symbiotic whole. Throughout, his exceptionally rangy, velvet voice remains a means to an end, always secondary to the flow of his seemingly endless creativity.

A full house bore witness to this, as Steven Santoro performed an impressive concert in front of a knowledgeable audience. He was backed by an excellent trio, comprised of pianist Walter Fischbacher, bassist Wolfram Derschmidt drummer Jonathan Mele, each of them regular guests at international stages. The quartet's joy at performing together was obvious, and Santoro visibly enjoyed performing in front of his audience. He left enough room for the band to perform solos, and the audience was not stingy with intermittent applause. An all around successful evening, thanks to the organizer and the financial backers of the concert series, since much engagement by all involved is necessary to present artists of such high caliber.

Text: intermezzo-Konzerte, Horst Engels

Homepage: intermezzo-konzerte.com

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