



Press release

The Soundmakers Project

Ineke Vandoorn - vocals

Marc van Vugt - guitars

Christine Duncan – conductor, vocals

The Soundmakers

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Voices, sometimes lovely and mysterious, other times emotional and powerful. 50 Soundmakers, guided by Christine Duncan's cues, improvise sounds, texts, rhythms, emotions and create soundscapes to the songs and improvisations of singer Ineke Vandoorn and guitarist Marc van Vugt. Nothing is predetermined, so the music truly arises in the moment. The Soundmakers are not a traditional singing choir but consists of people who not necessarily identify themselves as singers, but want to use their voice and enjoy making sounds.

"During our Canadian tours, we saw Christine Duncan at work with her Element Choir and got really excited. Not only did the result sound fantastic, but we realized that her way of working with an improvising choir in combination with our original compositions, would allow us to create a new context for our music. In January 2024 we invited Christine Duncan for the Soundmakers Project in which we combined our music with soundscapes created by a group of Dutch Soundmakers led by Christine. The project was performed with 3 different groups of Soundmakers in Houten, Arnhem and Den Bosch. The final concert in Houten, in which 50 Soundmakers participated, was recorded live for video and an audio."

The Soundmakers Project is an initiative of Dutch Grammy winners Ineke Vandoorn and Marc van Vugt. They are known for their adventurous and lyrical music and travel the world with it. Vocal improviser Christine Duncan is the founder of the Element Choir, the world's leading vocal improvisation group from Toronto, Canada.

The Soundmakers Project (click for link to prerelease)

Track list

1. Hatfield 22	7:21
2. Dansen	6:28
3. Soundmakers Choir Improvisation**	5:56
4. White	4:20
5. The Collar	11:41
6. Triology*	3:56
7. La Caresse	9:39
8. Soundmakers Improv* 1	4:42

All lyrics by Ineke Vandoorn.

All compositions by Marc van Vugt except * by Ineke Vandoorn/Christine Duncan/Marc van Vugt and ** by Christine Duncan

Ineke Vandoorn - vocals

Marc van Vugt - guitars

Christine Duncan - conducting, vocals

The Soundmakers Tilja Ansems, Irene Antoniesen, Martine Bier, Jan van Boekel, José Breden, Anne marie Brouwers, Jolanda Burg, Joke Egtberts, Marijke Faber, Linda Flipse, Roxane Gantert, Helga van Geldrop, Karin van Gent, Hanneke Glaudemans, Wil Groen, Floor de Groot, Albert ter Haar, Karien van Hedel, Marianne Heemskerk, Paul Hendrix, Karin Hernandez, Harald van Kesteren, Elizabet van der Kooij, Simonette van der Kuip, Marloes Kuiters, Mariëlle Lapidaire, Carlina de Lorenzo, Irene van Meijgaard, Mercè de Miguel Capdevila, Margre Mollink, Bep Odijk, Anneloes Olieman, Taeke Overdijk, Gerard Peters, Franklin Postema, Ingrid Rernirie, Harry Rikken, Marte Ruinen, Annet Scheringa, Ditje Schipper, Martha Talma, Ellen van Veldhuizen, Rob van de Ven, José van Vugt, Vera Warnecke, Hilda Wartena, Sabine Werre, Laura Wetzer, Leidy Zoeteman

Credits

Recorded live by Frans de Rond at Aan de Slinger, Houten Mixing and editing by Frans de Rond, Ineke Vandoorn and Marc van Vugt
Mastering by Frans de Rond, Hilversum
Produced by Ineke Vandoorn and Marc van Vugt
Graphic design by Studio Derk Reneman Cover photo 'Fred Chappell's Typewriter' by Robin Brailsford
Photo inner sleeve by Max Boeree

Thanks to

Vocal Vibes Arnhem, Elke Jansen, Jazzwerkplaats Den Bosch, Jeroen Doomernik, Sander Jongen, SENA, VSB Fonds, Aan de Slinger, Arjen Berends, Gemeente Houten, Gemeente Arnhem, Carel Nengerman Fonds, Fentener van Vlissingen Fonds, ArtEZ University of the Arts, BAIXIM Music Productions, Derk Reneman, Gradus Lemmen, Chris Teerlink - Luthier's Gitaren, Piet Visser, Mark Hamre - NeckUp Guitar Support, Danny Kok - TMA Benelux, Gianfranco Rizzi - Gr Guitar, Tom King – Atomic

Baixim records © 2025 Houten, The Netherlands
BR F535 © & © 2025 van Vugt / van Doorn

Reviews

The CD Crossing Canada got raving reviews in Europe:
.. the level of understanding has reached telepathic heights. Leonid Auskern – Jazzquad – Russia
The eleven original compositions sound like a road trip in itself, reflecting the emptiness and vastness of the Canadian landscape.
Zing Magazine – The Netherlands
Crossing Canada opens up as an album with inspired guitar and vocals, harmonious and melodic, and full of surprising stories that you listen to intensely. Bernard Lefèvre – Jazz'halo – Belgium

About Ineke Vandoorn & Marc van Vugt (NL)



With fairy-like sounds, funky arrangements, modern music full of harrowing and twisting harmonies and sadly comforting songs, singer/pianist Ineke Vandoorn and her partner in music composer/guitarist Marc van Vugt explore boundaries in an admirable and fascinating way: between improvisation and composition, in original songs with regular lyrics and in pure improvisations, by giving their characteristic interpretation of standards or by amalgamation of different musical expressions.

In the intimacy of a duo, trio or quartet, and with surprising and original crossovers with a chamber choir or a full orchestra, Like the Dutch Metropole Orchestra or the Dutch Chamber choir. Jazz as a conception is reinvented time after time; Fantasy, technical skill and willpower as a guarantee for a primal emotional impact: Music that will reverberate in your head for a long time.

Marc and Ineke released 13 cd's. Their original approach has taken them to clubs and festivals over the world. They recorded and performed with renown musicians like Kenny Wheeler (UK), Robin Eubanks (USA), Andy Sheppard (UK), Don Thompson (CA), David Linx (F), Norma Winstone (UK), Thomas Chapin (USA), Paul van Kemenade (NL).

About Christine Duncan (CAN)



A musical chameleon, Christine Duncan uses her voice as an instrument, in a wide range of diverse musical styles. She is involved in everything from jazz, R&B, gospel, improvised music, sound poetry, to new music, opera, and musique actuelle. She performs with many musical groups and projects, notably with Hugh Fraser's VEJ since the mid 1990's, and Barnyard Drama with drummer/electronic artist Jean Martin, since 2002. She created and directs the Element Choir, an improvising choir in Toronto, active since 2007. Christine and the Element Choir have been performing with Inuit throat singer/experimental vocalist Tanya Tagaq since 2014. For the last few years, as a community engagement outreach, Christine has been touring, putting together and training volunteer, improvising choirs to perform in concerts, with Tagaq and her band, and with other musical ensembles, both in Canada, and internationally. Duncan and Tagaq have also been performing their piece Qiksaaktuq, for the last couple of years, with Symphony Orchestras, in Canada and internationally. An active educator, Duncan has been teaching in the jazz programs at Humber College and the University of Toronto since 2003.