



PASSONA

There was once

The history of Passona is still a relatively short one. It happened in 2018, when a woman approached Urs C. Eigenmann and asked if he could step in as a pianist at short notice, because an acquaintance of hers had to play at a wedding, and the pianist planned had canceled at short notice before the appointment. So it happened that the young singer Leandra Wiesli, who lives in St.Gallen, and Eigenmann met and accompanied the wedding musically together. Eigenmann was very impressed by Leandra's art of singing and suggested a project with his band, which was accepted with great enthusiasm. This is how "Passona" came about with Leandra Wiesli (vocals), Markus Bittmann (sax), Alex Steiner (guitar), Urs C. Eigenmann (keys), Marc Ray Oxendine (bass) and Andy Leumann (drums). The musicians have been members of Eigenmann's various projects for years. As a result of the Corona crisis, however, the realization of the band was delayed by a year.

The name "Passona" suggested by Leandra is a creative reinterpretation of the word Passion, which means passion. For them - as for the whole band - passion is a basic requirement. essential. Leandra has been living this passion in singing since childhood. Her parents say that throughout her childhood she sang - up and down the stairs, just always - so that sometimes it became too much of a good thing...

As Beethoven says so beautifully: "Playing a wrong note is unimportant, but playing without passion is unforgivable!"

First CD recorded

In order for the new, still unknown band to have a chance to perform in today's difficult times, Eigenmann decided to produce a CD, which was generously supported by foundations and public authorities. Thanks to the sound carrier, it is even possible for the organizers to be able to find out more acoustically, which has already resulted in the first engagements. The production also sees itself as promoting the young, extremely talented singer Leandra Wiesli.

The CD was recorded in the "migou-soundpool", the studio of Andreas "Ghandi" Vetterli in Flawil, over three days - on June 11th, 13th and 27th. He then did the first mix on his own and sent the recordings to the band for everyone to express their wishes for the further mix. In the further course, Urs C. Eigenmann, Alex Steiner and Andy Leumann, together with Ghandi, completed the further twelve-hour mix over two days. The result was a perfect product that the band and the sound engineer thought was an excellent product, which premiered successfully in the "Gasthaus Bären" in Speicherschwendi and in the "1733 Restaurant & Weinbar" in St.Gallen. The artistic cover design is by Hans Krensler, the photos by Samuel Forrer and the graphics by Urs C. Eigenmann. The cover shows the band in front of the "Restaurant Chlösti" in St.Gallen, one of Eigenmann's regular pubs.

Various styles of music have been recorded appropriately. The special, very personal and creative voice of the young singer Leandra Wiesli comes into its own together with the full sound of the band and undoubtedly makes you sit up and take notice in the truest sense of the word.

The music was recorded by performers Natalie Cole, Sam Cooke with an Aretha Franklin version, Ray Charles, Leela James, Joe Cooker, Joss Stone, Elton John, Gary Moore, Diana Schuur and of course five songs by leader Urs C. Eigenmann Texts by Leandra Wiesli, Cornelia Buder, Malcolm Green and Nathalie Sika Maerten.

The music is uploaded to all media, such as Spotify, etc.

The CD can be ordered by post at www.jazztime.swiss/shop e www.cede.ch/de/?such_TERM=passona