

Farmers Market

Surfin' USSR (2007) Ipecac Recordings

The music of Farmers Market is a mixture of Bulgarian folk music, jazz standards, popular music and humor. Farmers Market has become one of Norway's most popular live bands, playing at all kinds of venues and festivals: jazz, folk and rock. Farmers Market has been releasing music in Norway sporadically over the past decade but their releases have been generally hard to find in Europe. Those who have been lucky enough to hear their music have been instantly won over by the unbelievable musicianship and oddball mixture of styles.



The band was formed in Trondheim in 1991 by students of the Jazz Department at the Conservatory of Trondheim. At first Farmers Market started out as a free-jazz quintet, but soon found itself heading in a completely different direction: towards Bulgarian folk-music. Since then - this Bulgarian music, with its odd meters, oriental scales and improvisational possibilities, has become one of the main musical ingredients of Farmers Market.

Farmers Market released their first CD, "Speed/Balkan/Boogie", in February 1995 - a live recording from Molde International Jazzfestival 1994. In 1997 - the band released its second album with saxophonist Trifon Trifonov from Bulgaria. This was an extreme album with elements of many different styles and ideas from bluegrass in odd meters, to Metallica-like versions of traditional Balkan tunes, and slick commercial music mixed with Stockhausen! The album got very good reviews from contemporary music magazines as well as rock, folk and jazz magazines in Europe.

The current album "Surfin' USSR" has been released on "Ipecac record", the record label of musical Mastermind Mike Patton (Faith No More), who considers himself a big fan of the band.

Line-Up

Stian Carstensen (Accordeon, Guitar) | Kaval, Bagpipe (Vocals) | Nils-Olav Johansen (Guitar, Vocals) | Trifon Trifonov (Sax, Cl) | Jarle Vespestad (drums) | Finn Guttormsen (bass)

www.myspace.com/farmersmarkettheband

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