

Antonio Malinconico e Amici

Presstext (long)

'Tempesta' is a new evening programme of Antonio Malinconico e Amici. Together with Thomas Sonderegger (guitar) and Martin Lorber (acoustic bass) the virtuous guitarist dedicates himself completely to the subject of a 'storm'. For Malinconico's acoustic trio 'Tempesta' is more than just a nice sounding empty word. It's rather the main motive of the storm that is omnipresent with all its shades and nuances in the sensitively arranged original compositions. Those who tend to think in clearly selective musical categories will have difficulty in being transported by the sounds of the congenious trio to a safe stylistical port. Instead Malinconico's music lives and breathes that cosmopolitanism that only a traveller owns. Soon it will be comprehended and clear that the Neapolitan was impressed by the South American folklore and especially by the rich world of Argentinean music. Though, the composer and arranger thinks and intensifies his impressions as he creates poetic everyday stories with the universal dialect of world music.

Although the musicians Antonio Malinconico, Thomas Sonderegger and Martin Lorber are endowed with virtuosity and an outstanding technique thanks to their well formed musical education, the trio never runs the risk of drifting into complacent technical exercises by playing. Instead the ensemble convinces with extraordinary dynamic, it enriches it with an exceptional delight in playing, and it reaches, in its best moments, an expression of pure passion. Their audience is therefore not the instrumentalists of this world, but the hearts of all those people, who want to be seduced or touched by a trip around the world or just for the time of a 'rain dance'.

"A storm doesn't fit into the form of a sonnet. It doesn't move itself in end rhymes and doesn't hold on to set words", wrote once the famous Caribbean poet Edward "Kamau" Brathwaite at the beginning of last century, very much to the anger of British literature purists. What is said to be for literature is also said to be for music. Especially because of that Antonio Malinconico e Amici try to meet the rearing, decaying, gusty, gale-force, or with rain unloading storms with caressing, stroking, plucking, striking, damping or with percussive arrangements on the cords of their Spanish guitars. Their acoustic sound stays like this a natural one and their arrangements are especially so lucid that there's always space for spontaneous things – the momentum itself persists. Nothing is the same as before after the storm. But that's good – really good.