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New album release: 'The Gentle Insult' by Edgar van Asselt

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'The Gentle Insult' is the thought provoking title of the new release from composer, producer and keyboard player Edgar van Asselt. This colorful, high-energy album contains nine brand new compositions fusing jazz, latin, pop and classical music into a warm sounding record. Joined by acclaimed musicians Jeroen Vierdag on bass and Jorge Rossy on drums and vibes, Van Asselt produced an album influenced by absurdism, surrealism and the use of 'rogue semantics'.

Van Asselt considers his album 'an outside-the-box, absurdist musical response in confusing times'. A colorful variety of things inspired him to the song titles. Such as the stellar quote 'I Love it When a Plan Comes Together' from the epic 80's series 'the A-team'. The viral media presence of billionaire tycoon Bill Gates made him ponder what the sound would be of 'Bill at the Gates'. And when taking a break he laid on his back and observed the 'Madness of the Clouds'.

Van Asselt wanted to combine the spontaneity of a live studio session with a contemporary sound. To achieve that he added VST's (Virtual Studio Technology, aka samples) to the live recordings. By using this technology the album sounds more orchestral than a traditional jazz trio while the fun and interaction stay at the heart of it. The mixing and mastering blended those two influences into an open and warm sounding album.

For this project Van Asselt teams up with drummer Jorge Rossy and bassist Jeroen Vierdag. Rossy's impressive resume includes collaborations with Brad Mehldau, Paquito D'Rivera and Kurt Rosenwinkel. Vierdag is a versatile bass player who has worked with pop giants such as Caro Emerald and Ilse DeLange as well with renowned jazz musicians as Anton Goudsmit. Van Asselt's tunes have a musical blueprint and leave space for many spontaneous musical contributions. The fun the trio has is right there from the start and makes the music come alive.

Being a versatile pianist, teacher, composer and producer, Van Asselt worked with David Schmitter, Lucy Woodward and Jorge Vistel, among others. Besides that, Van Asselt also led community building projects and is the artistic director of Stichting World Town Music, organizing a diversity of musical events and educational projects.

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[Interview with music journalist Serge Julien](#)