

Helge Lien Trio

- Helge Lien | piano
- Johannes Eick | bass
- Knut Aalefjær | drums

Helge Lien Trio is one of the most significant ensembles of Norwegian jazz in recent times. In 2019, the trio can be seen in 20 highly active and productive years, where continuous creative and musical development has been giving them international recognition. Since the breakthrough with "Hello Troll" in 2008, Helge Lien has concentrated on his own compositions while giving much space to the band members' distinctive character. From 2020 the trio will once again change its members, and will consist of **Knut Aalefjær** on drums and **Johannes Eick** on bass. When the trio now enters the next phase, it happens with lots of new energy and enthusiasm. The trio's characteristics are always strong compositions, big dynamic tensions, playful improvisations, musical presence and nerve.

In April 2019, Helge Lien Trio celebrated their 20th anniversary, marked by the release of the double album "10", which was their tenth album.

Helge Lien Trio received the Norwegian "Grammy" Award (Spellemannprisen) for the album Hello Troll (2008), and was nominated in 2002 with the album Spiral Circle, in 2011 with Natsukashii and in 2017 with Guzuguzu. They have played concerts in Japan, Korea, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Russia, Luxembourg, Romania, Poland, Sweden and Denmark, as well as most Norwegian jazz festivals.

Stuart Nicholson in Jazzwise Magazine (UK) wrote the following about the trio's previous album Guzuguzu: "... an album that seeks to express rather than impress. Lien's intense, focused improvisations contrasted by the ease of his execution and evenness of touch creates a powerful duality that is underlined by a lyricism of the most compelling kind - you literally hung on to his every note. It is his most compelling statement to date, suggestive of his continuing artistic growth."



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