

Mr Mibbler Leave Your Thoughts Here

SIDE A

1. Nils Petter Molvær Meets Mr Mibbler	2:06
2. Andreas Ulvo Meets Mr Mibbler	5:44
3. Knut Reiersrud Meets Mr Mibbler	3:27
4. Lindstrøm Meets Mr Mibbler	6:17
5. Anja Garbarek Meets Mr Mibbler	3:38



SIDE B

1. Mathias Eick Meets Mr Mibbler	3:20
2. Jørgen Munkeby Meets Mr Mibbler	3:23
3. Sigmund Groen Meets Mr Mibbler	4:10
4. Bjørn Klakegg Meets Mr Mibbler	3:13
5. Erik Honorø Meets Mr Mibbler	7:01

THOM HELL Piano, bass, vocals and guitars.

VIDAR ERSFJORD Keys, programming and electronics.
JÖRN RAKNES Guitars, other strings, musical saw and samples.

Featuring: Frank Hammersland – electric bass on A3, Bjarte Jørgensen – drums on A5 and Erlend Dahlén – percussion on B5.

A tale of three Magi.

It came to pass in those days, that there went out requests from Mr Mibbler to ten artists, that their creativity should be tested and taxed.

Could these artists bring forth the seeds that would give birth, without direct musical intercourse, to soundscapes of artistic beauty?

Would they dare lay their souls bare and create virgin, fragile and naked improvisations? Would they dare to put these musical seeds into the hands of three musical Magi? Would they trust the three Magi – when the days were accomplished – to let these seeds give birth to shiny stars of fully fledged musical creations?

Would it come to pass that the musical shepherds of the press and media would gather to hear, and would they make known here and abroad what fell when the music played? Would there be multitudes praising the music box and reborn throughout this metamorphosis?

The magic of Mr Mibbler: The three Magi of Mr Mibbler started out collecting snippets of sound and texture from commonplace locations. They cultivated discarded aural elements until these became unique soundscapes. This new method was strikingly different from how they had previously been working: Creating songs out of minutely crafted musical building blocks of verses, refrains, bridges and hooks.

This time around, with their third release, contributions from selected musicians and artists provide the three Magi with that which sparks their creativity.

Previously they picked fool's gold and made it into musical gems. This time they are dealing with real gold as the basic element of their creative process. Real gold in the form of musical improvisations, created specifically for Mr Mibbler to adapt and elaborate.

Mr Mibbler maestro Thom Hell was looking for a new angle of approach after two albums made following a similar template. The trio needed a new spark to ignite their creative process, and what was more natural in the age of Corona than to challenge artist and musician colleagues, in these days of quarantine and isolation, to record their moods and feelings in the form of free solo improvisations?

These lonely musical utterances were then sent off to the three musical Magi of Mr Mibbler: Thom Hell, Jørn Raknes and Vidar Ersfjord, themselves separated and working in the splendid isolation of their homes. Their challenge was to make pieces of music with these various improvisations at their core, creating a common ensemble performance from separate individual efforts.

The contributing artists were free to do whatever their creative souls told them to do. The three Mibblers receiving the recordings were free to develop and elaborate what the different artists provided them with. The contributors have not been consulted or

informed after delivering their contributions. They were even told: "The resulting pieces of music will probably not be anything like what you are expecting."

It so turned out that all three of Mr Mibbler's Magi found that the improvised contributions were something defining shape and form of the final product, demanding a slightly different approach to the musical process than the former albums. Quite naturally and organically the musical pieces now came to rely more on harmonic structures, and on melodic patterns.

When all inputs were made and duly recorded, they all ended up in the hands of Mr Mibbler founder Thom Hell, who took care of musical production and mixing. This process was performed by Thom alone in his home, where he turned the lack of full studio equipment into an exercise in ingenuity.

He transformed challenges to opportunities for innovation, and had to, quite literally, think outside the box, to perform the mixing tasks in an almost Lars von Trier dogma-like fashion, with less physical and electronic boxes, voices and equipment, challenging him to show all the more innovation and artistry.

What is obvious is that this album is all about trust. Without mutual trust it would never have come into being. Ten artists had to trust a vision, and surrender their creativity, ingenuity and vulnerability into the hands of the trio Mr Mibbler.

They would have to trust that Mr Mibbler would show respect, humility and appreciation, and make something valuable out of their contributions.

Mr Mibbler had to trust ten artists to give them seeds that they could make grow and blossom into beautiful creations.

Three musicians had to trust each other to be able take in ten multifaceted, free and uncoordinated creative outputs, and to make them into coherent and relevant pieces of music.

I think that when listening to this album, you will find that it worked, and that trust proved to be justified!

-SIGJØRN NEDLAND
JANUARY 2021

Mixed by Thom Hell.

Mastered by Morten Lund.

Front cover by Trond Nicholas Perry. Back cover by Sten E. Moe.

Previously released by Mr Mibbler:
Time is dust (Løstpl006) 2019
The Long Journey (NXN4002) 2021

Also available on compact disc.