

"...On this CD, you repeatedly create a kind of weightless sound — detached from everything, yet full of rich colours.

And this also applies:

A labyrinth of sounds and melodies — will we find our way out again?..."

KLANGFENSTER DRS 2 / Cecile Olshausen / July 2025

"With their sixth album, the Gilbert Paeffgen Trio delivers a musical statement of astonishing depth and poetic lightness. For over two decades, Gilbert Paeffgen (hammered dulcimer and drums), Claude Meier (bass) and Fabian M. Müller (piano) have been exploring the boundaries between timbres, rhythms and moods — and blurring them at the same time. 'Der Mann auf dem Trampolin' (The Man on the Trampoline), inspired by a fascinating performance by a trampoline artist, symbolises the trio's aesthetic: an artful balance between lightness and gravity, simplicity and complexity, control and letting go. In this music, opposites swing in harmonious suspension — carried by a deep artistic maturity and an irrepressible spirit of exploration. The seemingly contrasting sound worlds of the hammered dulcimer and percussion merge here with the transparency of the piano and the grounding pulse of the bass to create a personal, atmospheric sound. The album is both a retrospective and a new beginning — a musical interim assessment that celebrates what has been achieved — the Gilbert Paeffgen Trio has been around for a quarter of a century — and points to new horizons. A poetic yet powerful work that speaks its own language — beyond stylistic categories. A must for anyone who understands jazz not as a genre but as an attitude.

JAZZ FUN / Jacek Brun / May 2025..

'...This album is a well-rounded masterpiece...'

JAZZ N`MORE / Richard Butz / July 2025

"...For four decades, the drummer and hammered dulcimer player has been developing his own style between new folklore, minimal music and jazz. His long-standing trio, with Fabian M. Müller and Claude Meier on bass, updates this approach and enriches the concept with relaxed, groovy loops. The meditative attitude and minimalist, purely acoustic instrumentation give the music the necessary grounding..."

JAZZPODIUM / Michael Bossong / July 2025

"...This is not a big, loud hit, but rather a collection of small forms, playful, minimalistic, sometimes deliberately bumpy, seemingly unfinished...

...I lie pensively in front of the mountain hut after the day's toil and wait in the evening glow for the fluttering, jazz-tinged buzzing..."

JAZZTHETIK / Andreas Ebert / June 2025

'Phenomenal'

ER-EM-ONLINE.DE /TheRealPal / May 2025

Claude Meier on double bass are masters of playful, lyrical lulling..."

KULTURTIPP / Frank von Niederhaeusern / May 2025

"...drummer, also dulcimer player (prominent here)..."

tomhull.com / July 2025

"...'The Man on the Trampoline' contains music for every time of day, every day of the week, every season. Without exception."

kultkomplott.de / Jörg Konrad / August 2025

'...With hypnotic cascades of sound, the pieces played on the hammered dulcimer sound folkloric and a touch more intense...'

VIRGIN JAZZ FACE / May 2025

'...Listening to this magnificent album by drummer Gilbert Paeffgen, we discover his lively spirit and his wonderful connection with this magnificent trio. He unfolds a technique that serves his diverse inspirations and plays with influences from yesterday and today...'

RADIO REC FRANCE / Alain Dupeux / May 2025

"...The title "Der Mann auf dem Trampolin" (The Man on the Trampoline) as the name of the album reflects the artistic self-image of the

performers well: playful, yet profound and full of surprises."

VERHOOVEN'S JAZZ / Clemens Verhooven / 31 July 2025

"...Yes – a quarter of a century and five albums lie behind the trio.
The question of whether they belong in the folk, jazz or other categories seems to be completely irrelevant to the trio, and rightly so.
The unique sound of the formation is in a category of its own...."
'JAZZ? / LAEUFT' / Christian Müller / June 2025

'All of this together ensures that the trio forms a cohesive unit in which the three musicians support, complement and challenge each other. The boundaries between composition and improvisation quickly blur, and all the tracks tell a clear and distinct story...'
JAZZFLITS / Herman Te Loo / July 2025

'...that's not necessarily my cup of tea, but there are always lovers of such music...'
ROOTSTIME / Valerie Sampermans / July 2025

'...The originality of the compositions and arrangements is reflected in every single song...'
MUSIK AN SICH, Wolfgang Giese / May 2025

'...between minimal, Satie and jazzy bliss...'
BAD ALCHEMY / Rigo Dittmann / July 2025

"... Together with his fellow musicians Claude Meier (b) and Fabian Müller (p), Paeffgen creates a mood that is difficult to categorize.
The three pursue a unique concept between modern abstraction and impressionistic and minimalist influences..."
CONCERTO / Aloï / August 2025