

Saga

Joakim Simonsson, piano

Daniel Olsson, drums

Pär-Ola Landin, double bass

In 2001 drummer Daniel Olsson and pianist Joakim Simonsson formed jazz trio Saga. The bass chair has since been filled by different players, but in summer 2003 the duo found their perfect match in Pär-Ola Landin, who has been in the trio since.

Saga's music gets its special colour from Swedish folk music and hymns, both a strong influence on the group's main composer Joakim Simonsson. He describes the outcome as some kind of "melancholy free jazz with a touch of folk music."

Free improvisation has with time also grown to be an important part of Saga's music. Often a song is no more than a simple melody, like a hymn, open to be explored and developed anew each time it's played.



Saga's debut album entitled *Färger* was released in 2003, and contains 8 originals signed Simonsson.

"If Saga continue to produce jazz of such emotional depth, exhilarating freedom, and memorable melodicism as they do on Färger, they certainly will be seeing me and, I suspect, many of you, tomorrow." – **All About Jazz**

"Saga creates their music on a very Nordic musical foundation with an essential ingredient of improvisation, which sometimes rolls over to freeform jazz. But it's most of all very poetic, sometimes breathlessly beautiful but neither ingratiating nor saccharine...This is a very exciting debut album" – **Nerikes Allehanda**

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