



Newsletter August 2006

- 1) **Björn J:son Lindh at IB Expo 06**
- 2) **Tickets for IB Expo**
- 3) **IB football competition: The answer and the winner!**
- 4) **Luca Calabrese at MySpace**
- 5) **IB's journalist friend awarded!**
- 6) **Christian Saggese and Mauricio Kagel**
- 7) **IB's website updated**
- 8) **This newsletter as a PDF-file**

* * *

1) **Björn J:son Lindh at IB Expo 06**

We are very proud to announce that our final prominent guest at IB Expo 2006 will be our dear friend Björn J:son Lindh. For our Swedish subscribers, he is a household name, of course, but to our foreign readers, here's a brief presentation.



Björn J:son Lindh: stellar musician, highly regarded composer, award-winning composer of film music, unique improviser.

Having studied at the prestigious school of music at Ingesund and later the Royal College of Music in Stockholm, Björn started his career in the 60's playing flute and piano in jazz and rock groups. In the early 70's, he became the first call studio musician on flute in Sweden and worked with such diverse but renowned names as singer/songwriter Cornelis Vreeswijk, US legend Lee Hazelwood, pop icons ABBA, and distinguished art music composer Bo Nilsson.

Despite his heavy studio schedule, Björn managed to record and release five albums under his own name during the first half of the 70's. While working as a session musician, Björn met and befriended guitarist Janne Schaffer, with whom he formed a one-of-a-kind team that has been going on for more than thirty years now with various line-ups. His music stretches from classical via

fusion and world music to atmospheric laid back music. In various settings, he has played with such luminaries as Staffan Scheja, Jan Akkerman and Mike Oldfield.

Having released more than 20 CDs, Björn's music is well known to most Swedes. But the fact is, most people don't realize that they have heard a lot of Björn's music without knowing it. Earlier this year, Björn J:son Lindh was the first composer to be awarded the film music prize at the Gothenburg film festival. Millions have heard his soundtracks to movies such as Kjell Berglund's *Jägarna*; Susanne Osten's *Bröderna Mozart*; Pelle Berglund's *Den Demokratiske Terroristen*; Lasse Åberg's *Hälsoresan* and two movies by the late great Bo Widerberg, *Mannen på Taket* and *Mannen från Mallorca*.

As a flute improviser, he is second to none. With a vast range of expressions, from a percussive breath in his flute to a shrieking recorder note that will ring with you for a long time after you heard it.

Here's what Mats has to say about Björn J:son Lindh:

"I am really pleased to have Björn come to IB Expo. To me, he is one of Sweden's most original musicians with a musical language of his own, and a brilliant composer to boot. Björn J:son Lindh is probably the most Swedish-sounding music around today, and his music will survive us all. Timeless, dramatic, romantic, technically complex and with an outstanding feel for improvisations. Always with complete control over his instrument.

Few composers write such beautiful melodies as Björn and his humbleness is contagious. If you mention a striking crying theme he wrote, his answer might be 'yes, well, you know, I nicked that from Puccini' accompanied by a smile.

Working with Björn is always a joy. The first time I met him was when we recorded *Cheval*, which Janne Schaffer produced, hence Björn's presence on the record. I especially recall recording "The Aged" where Janne and Björn did a first take of a free improvisation. Time stood still in the studio. One take was all that was required. Björn left the recording room with the words "You can't do that twice". Since then, he has been a returning guest on most of IB's albums.

His personality is such that I sometimes wonder whether it was me or Björn who composed the music. He takes command of the music in a very positive way. By his way of playing, he has taught me that there is so much outside the score in IB's music. His sound has become a part of Isildurs Bane's sound, which makes us very proud and happy.

A magnificent Swedish composer and musician comes to IB Expo 06. Great!"

Björn is also a crossword-whiz and a painter. Go to his website: <http://www.bjson.se/>

* * *

2) Tickets for IB Expo

Now that you know who is coming (Björn J:son Lindh, Pat Mastelotto, Markus Reuter, Metamorfoosi Trio and Isildurs Bane), you need to reserve tickets, as some people from Sweden, Norway and Portugal have already done.

The IB Expo concert will take place on Saturday, October 21 at 19.30 at Kulturhuset in Halmstad. You will hear individual performances by the acts and unheard-of interactions between the musicians involved.

Make sure you get a ticket, by pre-ordering your ticket. Simply e-mail me at thomas@isildursbane.se leaving your name, address and e-mail address. I will then reserve tickets for you to be picked up on the day of the concert, October 21, 2006. I will send a reminder to those of you who have reserved tickets. Tickets are priced 150 Swedish kronor.

Please note that there are only 166 seats in the house and reservations have started to roll in.

* * *

3) IB football competition: The answer and the winner!

Who was the mysterious, yet athletic goalkeeper in last month's newsletter competition? The correct answer – in fact the only correct answer – was sent in by former IB keyboardist Bengt Jonsson (who insisted on taking part outside the competition). Here's what Bengt wrote:

"The picture shows Mats Johansson when he does his famous impersonation of his hero Sven-Gunnar Larsson (famous for cracking his skull when throwing himself head-first into the goal post)."

* * *

4) Luca Calabrese at MySpace



Our good friend and trumpet player extraordinaire Luca Calabrese (of Metamorfoosi Trio) has created a MySpace page where you can

listen to a trio improvisation with Metamorfoosi Trio recorded at Falkenberg. Do go and visit him at <http://www.myspace.com/lucalab> so you know what to expect at IB Expo 06!

* * *

5) IB's journalist friend awarded!

We would like to extend a huge HOORAY! to our journalist friend Luis Loureiro. A documentary made by Luis was considered the best TV report of 2005.

Here's what Luis told me:

"The documentary was considered the best 2005 TV report in the Journalism Against Indifference Award, a Prize by AMI, one of the Portuguese main non-governmental organizations (AMI means International Medical Assistance, they work all over the world in the worst scenarios, providing help to war refugees, homeless people and poor communities). This is a very prestigious award within Portuguese journalism so it means a huge step in the public knowledge of my work as a journalist. I couldn't feel more proud about it and so is my team."

* * *

6) Christian Saggese and Mauricio Kagel



Another highly valued friend of ours, virtuoso guitarist Christian Saggese of Metamorfoosi Trio, has been out and about.

A couple of weeks ago, Christian was in Buenos Aires at the Mauricio Kagel festival to perform the opera *Mare Nostrum*, featuring Mr. Saggese on guitar mandolin, lute and cavaquinho, all within the same composition!

Furthermore, Christian worked personally with the legendary avantgarde composer. Says Christian:

"Like all the greats, he is a nice person. When we first met, he said 'Congratulations Christian, you play all the notes that I have written. Normally, musicians change or delete parts to make the parts easier. When you come back to Italy, please send me the score with your fingering and arrangements. It's a great honour for me, I want to stay in touch with you.'

Christian has promised to bring not only his guitar, but also his mandolin to IB Expo 06. We are all in for a treat!

* * *

7) IB's website updated

Isildurs Bane's official website is now updated. Do check it out!
www.isildursbane.se

* * *

8) This newsletter as a PDF-file

Finally, a reminder that you can receive our newsletter as a PDF-file in the future, if you are unhappy with the current format. Just drop me a line at thomas@isildursbane.se and tell me you would prefer to receive a file-file.

* * *

Go visit our website regularly! www.isildursbane.se
And IB at MySpace: www.myspace.com/ibexpo
And Jonas' website: www.jonaschristophs.com
And my blog: thomasmusicology.blogspot.com/

Thomas Olsson
Newsletter editor

Do you know anyone who may be interested in receiving newsletters from Isildurs Bane? Send an e-mail to thomas@isildursbane.se and we will put you on our list.

If you want to unsubscribe, send a message to the same address and you will be taken off our list immediately.