

Nomazz Meets The Baltics

7-11 May 2012.

"Nomazz Meets The Baltics" was held as an Intensive Project (IP) in Tallinn, Estonia for the second year running. The purpose of the convention is to create contact between students from Nomazz and The Baltics and work under supervision of the invited teachers. The convention was planned so that all students met most of the teachers. It lasted 5 days with an intense daily programme from 10 to 22 with lectures, ensemble tuition, solo tuition, rehearsal and concert/jam session.

Nomazz students spend a semester in Aarhus, Stockholm, Helsinki and Trondheim respectively during their 2-year study. The convention in Tallinn is a strong supplement to an already international profile that the students work under, and the meeting with students from the Baltic countries provides opportunity for new future collaborations.

As a teacher at all 5 days at the convention, it has been inspiring to meet the students in a very intense work form. Furthermore, it is stimulating and developing to meet significant musicians at the convention, who may inspire to new approaches to music and tuition and open up for collaborations.

One particular musician and teacher from Estonia is worth mentioning, one that DJM students and teachers hopefully will have the chance to meet. It is the pianist Anto Pett, Professor in improvisation. I attended a lesson that he gave a Nomazz pianist and participated in his solo tuition of two flute players, a trumpet player and an accordion player in duo playing under his guidance.

Pett's approach to a development of the instrumental skill and improvisation as a common available opportunity for all musicians, regardless of genre, was completely unique and at such a high level that it would be impossible to walk away from his tuition unaffected. I can only recommend those who have the opportunity to visit him in Tallinn, where he is permanently employed. His background in an education as classical pianist and composer, and he holds workshops for students and teacher of all genres at institutions all over the world.

The convention was arranged and planned by Jaak Sooar (Estonia) and was held at The Estonian Academia of Music and Theater.

Participating Nomazz students were Alex Jønsson, Andreas Skamby Madsen, Esben Brandt Eriksen Elena Mindru, Adam Dyer, Bård Helgerud and Peedu Kass, as well as Christian Windfeld from the soloist programme. Participating students from the Baltic countries were Aleksander Paal, Laura Poldvere, Tom Poiss, Oskars Ozolins, Dovydas Stalmokas, Maria Väli, Reinis Ozolins, Rahel Hutter, Kaspar Kalluste and Kristijonas Doveika.

Teachers at the convention were Fredrik Ljungkvist (Sweden), Liudas Mockunas (Lithuania), Cabral Armando (Mozambique) Søren Nørbo (Denmark), Jakob Anderskov (Denmark), Tanel Ruben (Estonia), Jaak Sooäär (Estonia), Kari Ikonen (Finland) and Ape Anttila (Finland).

Søren Nørbo, Tallinn 11 May, 2012.