

# Jim Snidero Strings

Translation by Matt Merewitz

Jim Snidero

Strings

By Pierrick Favennec

1 CD Savant Records / Socadisc REISSUE

This recording mixing saxophone and strings, marked with the seal of history, first scheduled for September 11, 2001, published in 2003 and finally reissued, belongs to the very exclusive club of great successes of the genre and we recall that Jim Snidero is one of the most talented altoists of his generation.

It was a few weeks after the infamous events that Jim Snidero was once again reunited with his quartet, augmented by a ten-string ensemble conducted by his saxophonist friend Walt Weiskopf. In addition to his talents as an altoist, Snidero shows himself to be an inspired string arranger. Self-taught, he takes up the challenge thanks to "diligent listening to Clare Fisher, Claus Ogerman and Eddie Sauter" - not bad company! In fact, "Strings" follows in the footsteps of Claus Ogerman's successes with Michael Brecker ("Cityscape", 1982) or Eddie Sauter's "Focus" (1961) with Stan Getz. Like his models, Snidero went so far as to compose a magnificent "River Suite" in three parts.

Far from its usual role of ornamentation too often trivial or seductive, the orchestra is an integral part of the score and constantly interacts with the altoist-flautist and his trio, but also certain soloists in the orchestra (violin, viola, cello). The music develops like the dialogue of a scenario with multiple roles united by the song as in the "voice over" of the saxophonist who, through his compositions, weaves his narrative framework. Note the superb remastering work which ideally serves the luminous lyricism of Jim Snidero, set in the heart of this little gem to (re)-discover.

Jim Snidero (as, fl), Renee Rosnes (p), Paul Gill (b), Billy Drummond (dm), Walt Weiskopf (dir). Brooklyn, New-York, Systems Two Studios, October 25 and November 13, 2001.