

Biography of *duo* FriBerg

duo FriBerg is one of the most exciting young ensembles in Sweden today. *duo* FriBerg was founded in 2003 during the contest of "Smålandssolisten" final week. The two musicians in the duo wanted to see what you could do in an ensemble for percussion and saxophone and discovered to their delight that there were no limits.

duo FriBerg consists of Joakim Berg, marimba/ percussion and Per Friman, saxophones.

The ensemble would like to elaborate the music for marimba, percussion and saxophone mostly because the young musicians find a pleasure in playing but they also hope it will become a part of their professional careers. The combination of marimba and saxophone has turned out to be quite outstanding. Both instruments have great potential in regards to pitch and nuance and they complement each other quite agreeably.

The duo has throughout the years accomplished a number of concerts and productions. You can for example mention a live lunch concert on Swedish Radio P2, recording for the recording company NAXOS, participation in, Young and Promising 2007, arranged by The Swedish Chamber Association and a great number of tours and separate concerts all over the country.

The duo is very devoted on developing the repertoire for percussion and saxophone and has so far got pieces written for them by Andrea Lindberg Tarrodi and Tobias Broström and always likes to get in contact with other composers..

In October 2008 the duo released their first CD-album "The Sound of *duo* FriBerg" which shows *duo* FriBerg's wide repertoire.

duo FriBerg's concept is to offer its listeners a colourful firework display both musically and visually which they probably haven't experienced before. The music is supposed to be a mixture of new and old and it may hopefully be easy to listen to. Do not hesitate to visit one of *duo* FriBerg's concerts or contact us if you would like to book *duo* FriBerg.

Biography of Joakim Berg

Joakim Berg (born in Alvesta in 1981) has devoted all his life to percussion instruments of all kinds. He has obtained his music- and diploma education at Malmö Academy of Music where he has studied for Lennart Gruvstedt. Since 2006 Joakim is employed as a percussionist at the Royal Swedish Navy Band in Karlskrona. At the same time he works with his solo- and chamber music career.

In 2003 he won the contest "Smålandsolisten" that was arranged by Småland's music and theatre and in 2006 Joakim was awarded the second prize in Ljunggrenska contest for young musicians.

He has made solo performances with several professional orchestras among others Musica Vitae, "Jönköpings sinfonietta" and the Royal Swedish Navy Band. Apart from his solo career he has also been a very popular chamber- and orchestra musician. Joakim has also been heard and seen in Swedish Radio and on Swedish Television.

He has also been awarded a number of scholarships for example the great scholarship of "Kungliga Musikaliska Akademien" (Royal Musical Academy), the county of Kronoberg's musical prize, the city of Växjö and Alvesta's cultural scholarships.

Biography of Per Friman

Per Friman (born in Växjö in 1984) is one of the best saxophonists in Sweden, the winner of a number of competitions and scholarships, including a number of scholarships from "Kungliga Musikaliska Akademien" (Royal Musical Academy), Chamber Musicfestival in Båstad, Cultural Scholarships from the city of Växjö and the from the county of Kronoberg. The latest award, Stora Ensos Bruksstipendium, was handed over after a concert arranged by Musik vid Siljan.

He got interested in classical music at an early age and when he was 17 he was admitted to the Stockholm Music Academy and studied for Professor Christer Jonsson.

Per is mostly focused on classical music and is very interested in the classical saxophone. As a soloist he has done a great number of concerts with professional orchestras, you can mention his tour with the well-reputed string ensemble Musica Vitae and concerts with Jönköpings Sinfonietta and SAMI Sinfonietta. Per has also appeared on live concerts by Swedish Radio and TV and is represented in the record company of NAXOS.

Parallel with *duo* FriBerg and his soloist career Per is a member of the Swedish Saxophone Quartet, the best in Sweden of its kind. Since 2006 he is saxophonist in the Swedish Army Band.