

**“Big Folk”:** Tiptoe Bigband feat. Harald Haugaard.

During the last 20 years the violinist Harald Haugaard has represented Danish folk music in the most inspiring way. Unrivalled, he has been able to revitalize and pass on the music - without ever losing the connection to the tradition. With his musical vision and his powerful and brilliant performance he has made an international career which is unequalled among Danish folk musicians.

Tiptoe Bigband has its base in Odense, and has, since 1994, been an active and vital part of the Danish, professional bigband landscape.

Tiptoe’s vision is to put the bigband format to the test by constantly seeking artistic challenges in different ways of musical expression. Consequently, the band has released electronically based music, classical percussion music and has performed with the symphony orchestra, the classical choir and a large number of soloists from different musical scenes.

The main thread in all these projects has been the dedication shown by the musicians and arrangers within the band itself.

So it was obvious that Haugaard and Tiptoe had to meet and make music together.

The connection was established a long time ago - when the Tiptoe saxophone player Hans Mydtskov and Harald Haugaard were co-founders of the Danish folk-fusion band “Serras”.

For this band, the present conductor and artistic director of Tiptoe, Torben Sminge, was the co-producer of a couple of award-winning (DMA) records.

Therefore, you will find “Big Folk” recordings from the repertoire of “Serras” along with a number of recent works by Harald Haugaard - all of them interpreted in arrangements that make use of the great dynamic potential that Haugaard and Tiptoe represent in unison.

**Setup:**

Harald Haugaard: Violin

Torben Sminge: Conductor, Handclaps, Electronica

Morten Øberg: Alto saxophone, soprano saxophone, flute

Guy Moscoso: Alto saxophone, clarinet, flute

Finn Henriksen: Tenor saxophone, clarinet

Hans Mydtskov: Tenor saxophone, clarinet, soprano saxophone

Ole Visby: Baritone saxophone, bass clarinet

Lars Schuster: Trumpet, flugelhorn

H.C. Erbs: Trumpet, flugelhorn

Jakob Holdensen: Trumpet, flugelhorn

Tomasz Dabrowski: Trumpet, flugelhorn

Stefan Ringive: Trombone

Knud Schwaner: Trombone

Anders Ringgaard: Trombone

John Kristensen: Bass trombone

Niels Thybo: Piano, keyboards

Morten Nordal: Guitars

Kasper Tagel: Basses

Chano Olskær: Drums

Recorded by Jesper Findshøj and Torben Sminge at Peak Productions.

Dubs, editing, mix and mastering by Torben Sminge at Snowville Recording.

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