

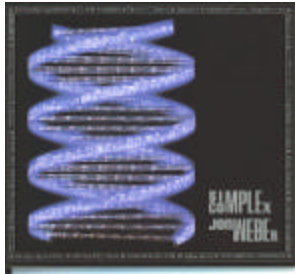
~ SWEDEN

ORKESTER JOURNALEN

- ABOUT JAZZ: 73rd YEAR – issue 802
- Translated from original Swedish

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2005

JON WEBER



SIMPLE COMPLEX \ 2nd CENTURY JAZZ RECORDS



NR 2 – 3 2005

Jon Weber, American pianist, lives and works in Chicago. Known primarily as a solo player with a steady gig at one of the city's largest hotels, his knowledge of American standards is almost encyclopedic. Thus, it is amazing that for this self-produced album, he assembles an impressive crew to play entirely his own music. How Weber could afford to hire these musicians is a mystery, but his album is receiving recognition in numerous American jazz magazines, and deservedly so.

Weber is a technically skilled pianist with an impressive flow in his playing. The technique, however, never becomes an end unto itself, and throughout, he is interesting to listen to. The rhythm section is also very good, with variations especially on the bass-side – where we even find Danish participation on a couple of tracks. As a whole, the music is well-played, and there are many compositions worth listening to. The ensemble is a mix of young and old; thus, **Gary Burton** appears, sounding hungrier than in a long time. Younger musicians play with the same joy, like fine trumpeter **Diego Urcola** and saxophonist **Eric Alexander**, both very listenable soloists. But the best is **Roy Hargrove**, playing flügelhorn very beautifully on one track.

A very nice album available for purchase via Jon Weber's website.

- - - - - JAN STRAND