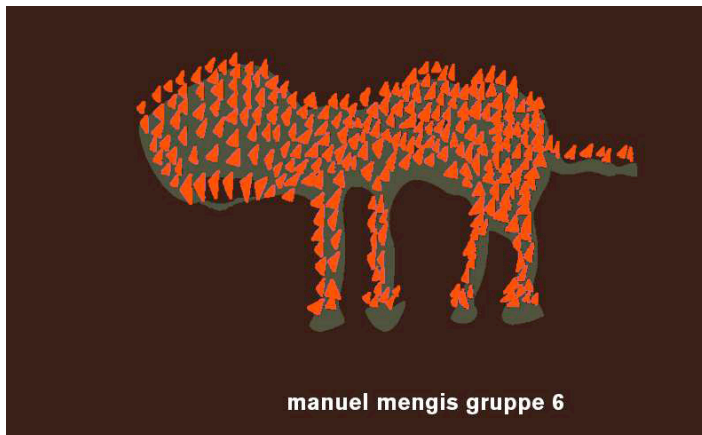


Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6

www.manuelmengis.ch

Manuel Mengis	trumpet, composition
Adrian Pflugshaupt	altosax, clarinet
Roland von Flüe	tenorsax, bassclarinet
Flo Stoffner	electric gitar
Marcel Stalder	electric bass
Lionel Friedli	drums



some reviews:

Down Beat Magazine (USA) 09.2008 CD review ****

James Hale

Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 «The Pond» (hatOLOGY 659)

**** shifts effortlessly from near-silence to raucous grooves that recall Frank Zappa and The Bad Plus. Mengis' writing is filled with dense, interlocking parts, but he's wise enough to keep the dynamics constantly moving around. A mix that pushes the band's three acoustic lead instruments above the electric guitar and bass aids this strategy. When the band rocks hard the effect is infectious.

Jazz Review (USA) 2008 Glenn Astarita

His debut release Into the Barn was one of the unanticipated surprises of 2005. And as the liners intimate, Swiss trumpeter Manuel Mengis doesn't rush into things: hence the three year gap between outings. However, there's nothing wrong with being focused and methodical, especially when the artist incorporates disparate genres into the jazz idiom amid tightly woven little-big band horns arrangements and scorching jazz-rock movements. With that in mind, Mengis pursues a kaleidoscopic array of harmonic overtures that are clearly defined and precisely executed throughout this splendid follow-up.....

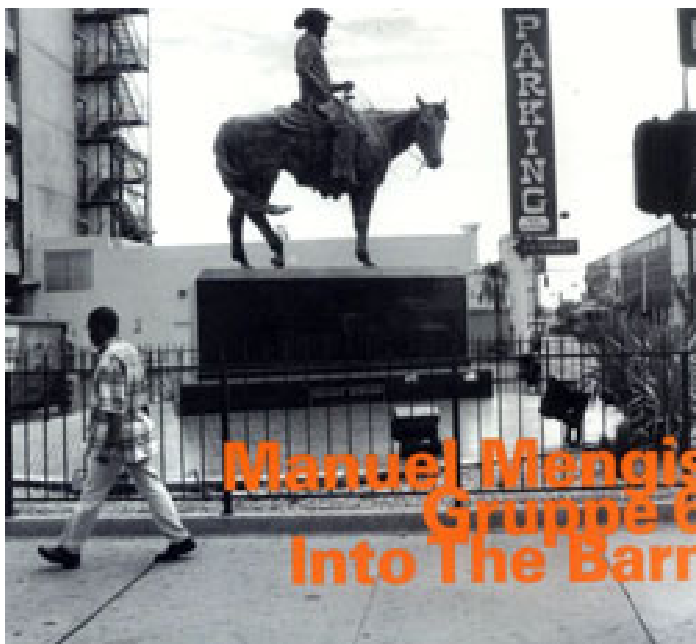
.....at times, the sextet surges onward with a cyclonic gait. But Mengis' ability to fuse multiple perspectives into a distinct musical persona provides the knockout blow. If we have to wait three years for his next solo venture, so be it. Quality wins out over quantity in most every instance...

all about Jazz (USA) 04.2008

Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 «The Pond» (hatOLOGY 659)

Listening to Swiss trumpeter Manuel Mengis' cross-genre Gruppe 6 is to hear an intoxicating melange of musics, from bop and free-bop to skronk and groove, in which the spirit of bassist/bandleader Charles Mingus' jazz workshop lives again, recalibrated by geography and history. Mengis' writing is enhanced by a line-up of characterful soloists. Stoffner's spacey, layered-chord solos on «Hide And Seek» and «Song For Violet» stick in the mind, as do Von Flue's smoky tenor on «Furry Buddy» and Escher's skronking alto on «Tomorrow Will Be Colder.» Mengis' nimble, laser-precise, skittering lyricism is compelling and delightful whenever it emerges from the ensemble.

Ultimately, however, The Pond is a composer's album.



Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 Into The Barn



Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 The Pond



Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 Dulcet Crush

That, like the finest classic Mingus, it sounds more like an epic head arrangement, gives it added allure.

La Scena Musicale (CAN) Vol. 13. X / July - August 2008
Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 «The Pond» (hatOLOGY 659)
On ne peut pas dire que la Suisse, malgré ses prestigieux festivals, soit particulièrement célèbre pour ses musiciens de jazz. En voici pourtant deux qu'il faudra surveiller de près.....
oici un exemple parfait d'un jazz d'aujourd'hui qui sait demeurer créatif sans tomber dans les excès.

Greg Taylor's Customer Reviews
Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 «The Pond» (hatOLOGY 659)
Reinventing the mainstream, April 22, 2008
Here is another example of the future of jazz. This is a group of young European players led by the Swiss trumpet player, Manuel Mengis.....
he strengths of this group are obvious on first listening- these guys can flat out play and they are displaying that skill on first-rate compositions all of which come from the head of Mengis.
....All in all this is a great CD, one that I keep going back to listen to again. And keep an eye out for their first release, Into the Barn.

Down Beat Magazine (USA) 05.2006
Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 «Into the Barn» (hatOLOGY 627)
Manuel Mengis' versatile ensemble debuts with this startling, passionate CD.....
... Imagine the Vandermark 5 jamming with Miles Davis' Cellar Door band, or Bill Dixon sitting in with Soft Machine. The sextet negotiates Mengis' scores with precision and energy, stoked by electric bassist Marcel Stalder and drummer Lionel Friedli. Mengis features all members of Gruppe 6 equitably, distributing solos and opportunities for small-group interactions. His own solos demonstrate his expressive range including a sensitive and lyrical aspect on «Seni». Into the Barn is packed with exhilarating performances and unexpected twists.

Jazz Review (USA) 2006
Manuel Mengis Gruppe 6 «Into the Barn» Tim Dorset
There aren't many discs on hatOLOGY that open with a drummer setting the tempo by clicking his drumsticks together. Then again, there aren't many trumpeters around like Manuel Mengis, who is a jazz musician by night and Swiss mountain guide by day...
..... One of the most satisfying hatOLOGY releases in a long time.

Musicgallery - B.L.G. & M.A.P. Review Recent Treasures... NY (USA)
For the second time in the past year, the Hatology label, has released sextet disc by a group of virtually unknown players and has again come up with a winner. Can't say that I've heard of any members of this amazing Swiss based sextet, previous to this disc. What we find here is four long pieces, each amazing and diverse....
... Another unexpected treasure from the consistently engaging folks at Hatology.