

Press release

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What does a room actually sound like?

Hotel Birger Jarl's Swedish-designed hotel rooms, created by Thomas Sandell and Jonas Bohlin among others, have inspired and been the basis of a unique musical project. The result is called 'Miss Dottie', an album with exciting and unexpected meetings between the work of the interior designers and Swedish musical life.

Miss Dottie is a compilation album with music presented by a number of Swedish music profiles, led by songwriter and producer, Fredrik Jonsson. Notable names on the album are also, apart from Fredrik Jonsson himself, Blackcell, Emma Nilsson, Charlotte Berg (Charlie's Magazine), Annika Thörnquist (Da Buzz), Daniel 'Papa Dee' Wahlgren and Josefin Nilsson (Ainbusk).

"Hotel Birger Jarl has a pronounced design profile with 16 rooms 'signed' by designers such as Jonas Bohlin, Thomas Sandell and Franz Hardinger. For a long time I toyed with the thought of setting the rooms to music, so a year ago I met Fredrik and we began brainstorming ideas, and quite soon decided that we wanted to put together a complete album with the designer rooms as its basis. Fredrik has had a free hand to formulate the material", explains Magnus Fagerström, Vice Managing Director at Hotel Birger Jarl.

On the album, Fredrik has combined Swedish music tradition and time influences with the various designers' rooms. The result was a narrative on Swedish musical life from folk music to the 21st century.

"I spent a lot of time in the rooms in order to get the right atmosphere as much as possible. Only after that was I ready to write the individual songs", says Fredrik Jonsson.

Several of the tracks on the album have been recorded live in the hotel's designer rooms, both to get inspiration from each respective designer and also because Fredrik Jonsson wanted to promote live recordings, which he thinks are much too underrated nowadays. The live recordings also contribute to the sound on the album in which Fredrik's aim is a natural sound picture.

Papa Dee is one of the artists who participates in 'Miss Dottie'. He is also working with his own album which will be released during the spring.

"I was asked about it, and I liked the idea, of combining agreeable music with Hotel Birger Jarl's Swedish-designed hotel rooms. The result was a modern and beautiful album, full of atmosphere, with Nordic melodies. Perhaps people do not associate me with that sort of thing, but the result feels quite obvious and 'very Papa Dee'", says Daniel Wahlgren.

'Miss Dottie' will be on sale in record shops and other outlets during the spring of 2004.