

## **JAZZNIGHTS**

## NDR BIGBAND FEAT. AL JARREAU & JOE SAMPLE

SET 1: NDR Bigband mit Joe Sample > Children of the Sun < Projekt

\*\*\* Pause \*\*\*

SET 2: NDR Bigband mit Al Jarreau - Best of Porgy & Bess und eigene Stücke von Al Jarreau

SET 3: NDR Bigband mit Al Jarreau & Joe Sample

(subject to change)

Whenever the NDR Bigband threw itself into the deep end of adventurous manoeuvres by cooperating with charismatic soloists –they always took a huge benefit out of each collaboration – just like the solo artists involved.

For the upcoming autumn not only one, but two tremendously charismatic examples of the international Jazz scene will be a part of a nationwide tour with the NDR Bigband to prove this statement right once more.

One of them is singing, the other one plays the piano – both have nothing to prove to nobody any more as they rightfully can be considered "legends" by now and will cement this status effortlessly from the first note they play or sing.

Al Jarreau, 72 years old and Joe Sample, 73, gained such an immaculate reputation as Young Lions to be able to make it easy for themselves by just administrating their heritage these days. But – luckily for all their fans – that's something both have - and will be - staying as far away from as possible. They both rather rise to the challenge of throwing their egos against a Bigband orchestra until the moment of pure beauty when both forces of nature are growing together - the soloist becoming a team player and the Bigband turning into the backbone of completely new, unheard sounds. Sample, Jazz Crusader from the very beginning, evinces himself a charming and innovative director with his piano playing in front of a huge orchestra – and Jarreau embeds his extraordinary voice into the Big Band sound like a putting a newborn into a soft blanket. Whenever he drops his verses in between the pointed horn sections, his voice is becoming an instrument all by itself. Always wowing his spectators by scatting syllables to clever and sparse orchestral arrangements he too proved himself the ever-charming conférencier at his last summit with the NDR Bigband, introducing meticulously hand-picked classics from his catalogue like "It Ain't Necessarily So" or "Oh Bess, Where's My Bess" from the works of George Gershwin to the audiences. Of course there's good chances that this time around he will settle on something completely different from his huge reperetoire - but it goes without saying that this will not be less captivating in any way.

Then again Joe Sample likes to lead the orchestra with his effortless piano playing through his own compositons and also prescribes the Bigband some "funky tunes" all the way. He also proves himself a really amusing and congenial narrator of witty stories inbetween songs. The past shows that Sample as well as Jarreau have been playing together with the 18-strong NDR Bigband have all been celebrations for Jazz lovers with highest standards and can only be surpassed in one way: a conjoint tour of both legends with the Hamburgian Orchestra! Whenever phrases like "huge event" are used everybody usually should be highly alarmed – but in this particular case it's simply nothing but the truth!