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#### Artists

Søren Kjærgaard – piano  
Ben Street – bass  
Andrew Cyrille – drums



### Kjærgaard / Street / Cyrille *Femklang*

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Featuring the Danish pianist and rising talent, Søren Kjærgaard, iconic drummer Andrew Cyrille and renowned bassist Ben Street, this cross-generational trio has been hailed by international critics for their two releases *Optics* (ILK140CD, 2008) and *Open Opus* (ILK166CD, 2010). Highlighting the compositional voice of Søren Kjærgaard, the three musicians challenge the traditional trio format, and their efforts in breaking new musical grounds has brought them to the stages of festivals and venues in Denmark, Spain, Italy, Canada and the US.

The third and present album *Femklang* is a work relying on its slow unraveling pulse to evoke a suspended, weightless sound world. By opening and closing with *The Loop* - a drum cycle penned by Andrew Cyrille - *Femklang* suggests an overall circular feel to the music; the repetitive becomes a way of looking into the various shades of a single entity, a note, say, a chord or a cymbal stroke. The music which is primarily written by Kjærgaard explores sound and silence on equal terms, as two inseparable aspects, converging composition and improvisation into an open sonic field with room for each individual voice to unfold.

*Femklang* was recorded at the legendary Avatar Studios in New York under the auspices of sound engineer James Farber who had the three musicians placed in one room in order to create a naturally resonating ambience. Both the sound aesthetic and the musical ground is in many ways a continuation of the two previous trio albums, and also draws a line to Kjærgaard's duo collaboration with the poet, artist, philosopher and former tennis pro Torben Ulrich on their two releases *Suddenly, Sound* (ILK155CD) and *Alphabet, Peaceful, Diminished* (ILK167CD).

*Femklang* is released on cd in limited edition and will also be available for download on iTunes and at other digital music vendors.

The Danish word 'femklang' contains a variety of meanings. Fem-klang is put together by the two words fem, meaning five, and klang (as in German) meaning timbre or sound, according to both the sheer physicality of a sound and the individual perception of that sound: How one hears it, aesthetically, emotionally, cognitively.

In music theory, klang can refer to a group of notes, like a chord or a cluster, which also points out the most frequent use of femklang in Danish, meaning five-chord or pentachord, also suggesting five-foldedness as such.

**Søren Kjærgaard** (born March 5, 1978) is one of the leading voices of his generation from the vibrant Danish jazz scene. As part of the Copenhagen based record label ILK he has released nine albums as a leader. SK has toured extensively in Europe, US, Canada, South Korea and China, and he has performed and recorded with artists such as Tim Berne, George Garzone, Herb Robertson, Michael Blake, Wayne Horvitz, Thomas Morgan, Jim Black, Jakob Bro, Peter Brötzman, Barry Guy and Fred Frith.

**Ben Street** (born July 7th, 1965) is one of the most sought after bassists on today's international jazz scene. He is present on a wide range of recordings from the past decade, and he has performed and toured with artist Danilo Perez, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Roswell Rudd, Paul Motian, Lee Konitz, John Scofield, Clark Terry, Sam Rivers, Clifford Jordan, Billy Harper and Jimmy Scott.

**Andrew Cyrille** was born in Brooklyn, NY, on November 10, 1939. He has performed with artists ranging from Coleman Hawkins and Mary Lou Williams to Kenny Dorham, Muhal Richard Abrams and David Murray. In 1964 he formed an association with pianist Cecil Taylor that would last for 11 years. In 1999, he received a Guggenheim Fellowship for composition. Within the past several years, he has been collaborating and working with musicians such as Archie Shepp, Oliver Lake, Roswell Rudd, Henry Grimes, William Parker, Dave Burrell and Marilyn Crispell.