

Press Kit

Album: 'The Artist'

Artist: Harry Siers

The album 'The Artist' contains 14 songs, based on 14 poems by British poet Philip Dawson-Hammond. Songs about a gondola ride, a haunted mansion, Tom Waits. Songs about the moment when Bob Dylan went electric and was booed by the hippies, about a flowery hill in North England, about a small cemetery

Styles: Jazz, Pop

Release date: 1 October 2021

Available on: CD, Flash USB and streaming platforms like Spotify, iTunes, Amazon Music, Deezer

Musicians:

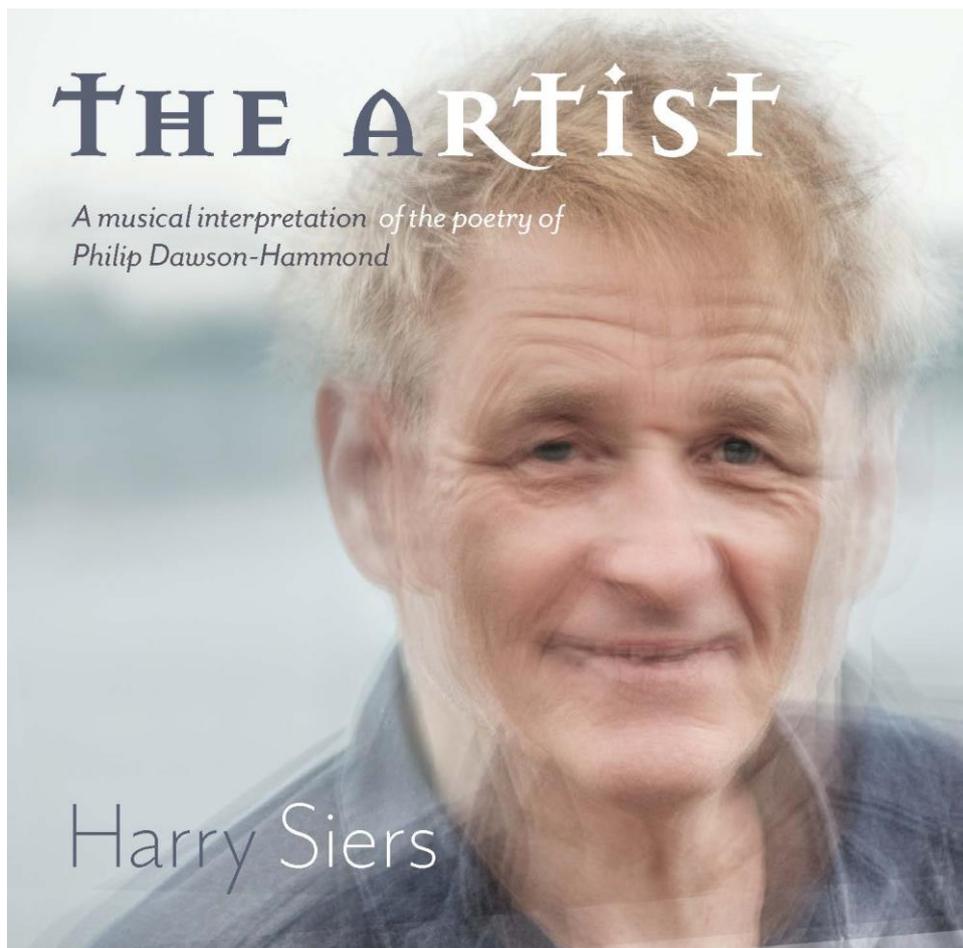
Harry Siers

Jan Gerritsen

Zoli Soós

Bart Tarenskeen

Ratko Zjaca



Artwork: Alfred Marseille (See second page for notes on the 14 songs of the album)

Notes on the music of 'The Artist' (by Harry Siers), an album based on the poetry of Philip Dawson-Hammond (UK)

01 The Gondola Ride

A quiet opener that introduces all five musicians. It was Zoli Soós' idea to let the cello part start after the first few bars. The guitar part is made on two guitars, one in normal tuning, one in Nashville tuning. The combination gives a 12-string-like sound. I use it in three songs, this one, Morning Rain and Sugar Lane, evenly distributed on the album.

02 The Haunted Mansion

I wanted to create an Edgar Allen Poe-like atmosphere by adding nature sounds and a creaking door.

03 My Place

The 'cello' returns. I played and sang the cello part as example for Zoli to work with, the part was made with synthesizersoftware. I like this song, it is the first one that introduces the 'artist'.

04 "1966"

A song about Bob Dylan, in the style of Bob Dylan. The solo guitar part was done on a Fender Stratocaster, to match the text of the poem.

05 For Tom Waits

A favourite of mine. Great poem, which triggered the whole album. Good work by all supporting musicians. I adore Ratko Zjaca's work on solo guitar here.

06 The Artist

Because the songs on the album are based on 14 poems, I wanted to include a spoken word piece on it, and named the album after it.

07 Bembridge Hill

I love the poem. Philip's work reminds me of the work of the great English romantic poets, Wordsworth, Keats, Shelley. The saxophone and solo guitar parts, though recorded separately, blend nicely.

08 Commuter

Jan Gerritsen came up with the idea to record one saxophone part on three different saxophones: alto, soprano and tenor. I like the result of that a lot.

09 Morning Rain

Another nature poem and another favourite of mine. For a long time this poem provided the working title of the album, until I changed it into The Artist.

10 Out

A song about everything one can be out of.

11 The Tourist

Just vocals, guitar and upright bass (by Bart Tarenskeen, who did good work on all the fourteen songs).

12 The Winter of '79

Intro by lifelong friend Jan, on his saxophone. Zoli and Bart lay the foundation, while Jan and Ratko blend nicely again, soloing. The sound of the vocals was created by using two different microphones, the Shure 55 "Elvis" mike and the 'Green Bullet' mike.

13 Time

A bluesy song. The vocals were again made by using two different microphones.

14 Sugar Lane

Because the song is about a cemetery, I placed it as last song on the album. In addition, it is the only song on which I'm the only musician, just guitar and vocals. Two different guitars, one in normal tuning, one in Nashville tuning.