

PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA

In the American music magazine, **Down Beat**, journalist Bill Shoemaker writes:

"The Danish guitarist creates an exotically hued, rhythmically vibrant music that is simultaneously sophisticated and accessible. Pierre Dørge's NJO has been one of jazz's most consistently engaging big bands of the last decade."

In the book, *"A Night in Tunisia - Imaginings of Africa"*, by Norman C. Weinstein,

Pierre Dørge's New Jungle Orchestra are the only Europeans portrayed side by side with top American jazz luminaries like John Coltrane, Archie Shepp, Yusef Lateef and Duke Ellington.

A few excerpts from the book:

"It is unabashedly one of Europe's most sophisticated jazz bands"

"Dørge and band don't simply reverently imitate the Ellington jungle-sound, but ironically and humorously carry that sound to its logical musical conclusion."

"His (Dørge's) imaginative play with African styles and instrumentation is unparalleled by any other musicians not of African descent"

Donald Elfman of AAJ once remarked, *"Pierre Dørge has what seems like a magical ability - he can re-imagine and re-think the way that music is voiced thus creating entire new worlds out of worlds we think we know."*

His magical ability is at full throttle here on this extraordinary musical depiction of a fascinating country.

Line-up:

Pierre Dørge	(Denmark)	conductor & guitar
Gunnar Halle	(Norway)	trumpet
Jakob Mygind	(Denmark)	saxes
Anders Banke	(Denmark)	bass clarinet & sax
Kenneth Agerholm	(Denmark)	trombone
Irene Becker	(Denmark)	piano & synthesizer
Thommy Andersson	(Sweden)	bass
Ayi Solomon	(Ghana)	percussion
Martin Andersen	(Denmark)	drums



Pierre Dørge is one of the most prolific and wide-ranging figures on the Danish scene today.

He has been interested in modern jazz from as far back as the beginning of his career in 1960. Through the years, however, he has also displayed an unremitting curiosity about other cultures and genres. Accordingly, elements from European, Asian, African and Afro-American music traditions have been assembled by Dørge into a most original synthesis. He has been working in bands with *Yusef Lateef*, *Hamid Drake*, *Shashank Subramanyam*, *John Tchicai*, *Yu Jun*, *Lelo Nika*, Svend Asmussen, *Sainkho Namtchilak*, *Jörg Huke*, *Volker Schlott*, Niels Henning Ørsted Petersen, Muhal Richard Abrams, *Johnny Dyani*, Don Cherry, Billy Hart, *Jim Pepper*, *Horace Parlan*, *David Murray*, *Olu Dara*, Peter Brötzmann, *Kirk Knuffke*, *Stephen Riley*, Adam Nussbaum, Morris Butch, Henry Grimes, *Harry Beckett*, *Marilyn Mazur*, *Ray Anderson*, *Han Bennink*, *Herb Robertson*, *James Blood Ulmer* and *Hugh Masakela*, among others. (*Artists who worked with NJO are in bold*)

New Jungle Orchestra was formed in 1980 and named after the legendary growling "jungle" sound of the early Duke Ellington Orchestra, some of whose compositions have appropriately been covered by NJO. Other major jazz influences that can be heard are Don Cherry's group and Charles Mingus' experiments with combining improvisation and large-scale forms with the mobility of a group that is sized somewhere between a traditional combo and a big band; the Gil Evans flux between forceful anarchy and carefully layered, complex structures; and the ironic cabaret touch of Carla Bley. The mere mention of names like these also indicate the level of innovation and artistry on which the NJO, in its 40-years of existence, has distinguished itself as one of the most original, intense and enjoyable groups to be heard on today's global music scene. As things stand today, however, these are not the only jazz giants who – along with a large array of non-Western musics – have contributed to the New Jungle Orchestra's sound. *What we have here is "World Music", in the most literal sense of the term.*

NJO has been touring in India, Australia, Bali, Brazil, Japan, Malaysia, Macedonia, Syria, Italy, Croatia, China, Korea, Thailand, Romania, Macedonia,

Belgium, Zanzibar, New Zealand, Vietnam, South Africa, England, Singapore, Java, Ghana, Spain, Germany (DDR incl.) Portugal, Greece, France, Scotland, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia , Ireland, Luxembourg, Poland, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Virgin Islands, New York, California, Washington, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., Texas, Canada, Latvia, Germany, Argentina, Mexico, Russia (former U.S.S.R.), Slovakia, Austria, Estonia, Lithuania and Denmark.

Discography 1980-2020

27. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

Bluu Afroo featuring Stephen Riley

SteepleChase Records SCCD 31904 (2020)

26. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

UBI ZAA featuring Kirk Knuffke

SteepleChase Records SCCD 31819 (2016)

25. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

Tjak Tjaka Tchicai

SteepleChase Records SCCD 31777 (2014)

24. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

SKETCHES OF INDIA

SteepleChase Records SCCD 31728 (2011)

23. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

The Olufsen Years 1988-1994

SteepleChase Records SCCD 30020/24 (2011) 5 CD BOX SET

22. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

PIERRE DØRGE presents NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA

SteepleChase Records SCCD 31701 (2010)

21. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

featuring Shashank Subramanyam, Josefine Cronholm & Dawda Jobarteh

AT THE ROYAL PLAYHOUSE

SteepleChase Records SCCD 31693 (2009)

20. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

Whispering Elephants

SteepleChase Records SCCD 31652 (2008)

19. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

JAZZ IS LIKE A BANANA

SteepleChase Records SCCD 31636 (2007)

18. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

featuring Herb Robertson

NEGRA TIGRA

ILKILK112CD (2005)

17. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
featuring Ray Anderson & Josefine Cronholm
Dancing Cheek to Cheek
Stunt STUCD 04062 (2004)
16. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
LIVE AT BIRDLAND *featuring Hugo Rasmussen*
Stunt STUCD 03012 (2003)
15. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
ZIG ZAG ZIMFONI *featuring Kasper Tranberg*
Stunt STUCD 01022 (2001)
14. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
featuring Archille Succi, Tchicai & Josefine Cronholm
GIRAF
DACAPO DCCD 9440 (1999)
13. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
featuring YU JUN
CHINA JUNGLE
DACAPO DCCD 9427 (1997)
12. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
featuring AVIAJA
MUSIC FROM THE DANISH JUNGLE
DACAPO DCCD 9423 (1996)
11. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
ABSURD BIRD *featuring Zeuthen & Ayi Solomon*
Olufsen Records DOCD 5319 (1995)
10. *PIERRE DØRGE conducts POLAR JUNGLE ORCH.*
POLAR JUNGLE ORCHESTRA *featuring Zeuthen & Irene Becker*
OLU DISC OLUCD 93 (1994)
9. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
KARAWANE *featuring Jesper Zeuthen*
Olufsen Records DOCD 5141 (1993)
8. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
featuring Horace Parlan, Beckett, Jörg Huke & Audun Kleive
DAVID MURRAY & the JAZZPAR PRIZE
ENJA CD 7031-2 (1992)
7. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*
LIVE IN CHICAGO *featuring Hamid Drake, Harrison Bankhead, Tchicai & Beckett*
Olufsen Records DOCD 5122 (1991)
6. *PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA*

PEER GYNT featuring J. Tchicai & Jesper Zeuthen
Olufsen Records DOCD 5207 (1989)

5. **PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA**
Different Places - Different Bananas featuring Tchicai & Beckett
Olufsen Records DOCD 5079 (1989)

4. **PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA**
JOHNNY LIVES featuring Tchicai, Hamid Drake & Beckett
SteepleChase Records SCCD 31228 (1987)

3. **PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA**
featuring J. Dyani, M. Mazur, Ahmadu Jah, J. Tchicai & Harry Beckett
Even the Moon is Dancing
SteepleChase Records SCCD 31208 (1985)

2. **PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA**
featuring Johnny Dyani, M. Mazur & J. Tchicai
BRIKAMA
SteepleChase Records SCCD 31188 (1984)

1. **PIERRE DØRGE & NEW JUNGLE ORCHESTRA**
featuring John Tchicai & Marilyn Mazur
SteepleChase Records SCCD 31162 (1982)