



Susanna Risberg is one of the most prominent Swedish jazz musicians of her generation.

The award winning guitarist has a career behind her that has been going on for half of her 27 years long life, and her collaborations with artists such as Nils Landgren, Svante Thuresson, Magnus Lindgren and Bohuslän Big Band, and her solo projects has made Risberg a name to be remembered.

*"Despite her young age she is already a rising star with an extensive track record and a solid rock in a variety of contexts. It started with an electric guitar and an idol named Jimi Hendrix. Today she is predicted to become one of Sweden's leading guitar players."* -

Was the Jury's motivation when the Swedish Radio P2 awarded Guitarist Susanna Risberg the prestigious Jazzkatten's Newcomer of The Year-prize, in October 2015.

From the work she has done with her trio (Susanna Risberg Trio) and as a solo artist she has two critically acclaimed albums out ("Susanna Risberg Trio" 2013 & "Utfall" 2015), and has made performances at internationally important jazz festivals such as Ljubljana Jazz Festival, Copenhagen Jazz Festival, Umeå Jazz Festival, Tampere Jazz Happening, International Jazz Day in Myanmar, Young Euro Classics to name a few.

Risberg has also performed as soloist with several big bands and symphony orchestras, toured and recorded with numerous pop stars, won Hagström scholarship for Guitarists twice (among other awards and scholarships), and studied at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm, and at Berklee College of Music, where she won the prestigious "Jimi Hendrix Award '11".

Her new album "Vilddjur" has more of a distinguished "modern jazz-sound" than her previous ones, and it features some of Sweden's absolute finest jazz musicians.

The size of the group differs, from duo, trio and quartet all the way up to a nonet.

Rasmus Blixt (dr.) and Oskar Lindström (pi.) play on almost all of the tracks while it shifts between the three brilliant bass players Niklas Fernqvist, Palle Sollinger and Arvid Jullander.

The tune "Lotass" (previously released on "Utfall", 2015) gets revisited, but this time in a new arrangement of Risberg's for quartet and five horns. The renowned saxophonist Fredrik Ljungkvist appears as a soloist with his soprano, accompanied by Erik Tengholm (trpt.), Agnes Darelid (trmb.), David Bennet (alto s.) and Martin Wirén (tenor s.).

If Susanna were to be asked the question "who is your favourite jazz composer of all time?" she wouldn't even hesitate for a second before replying "Billy Strayhorn", and so it just would not make sense for her to make her very first album that features other composers than herself and not bring him into it. "Lotus Blossom"; the other worldly-beautiful ballad by Billy Strayhorn is performed here by Risberg, Blixt and Fernqvist.

The 9 tracks of the album demonstrates the extent of Risberg's innovative musicianship and vastness, both as a composer and guitarist.

The music could be described as playful and spontaneous, but yet sophisticated and complex modern jazz that grabs a hold of the listener and takes them on an exciting journey.

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*"Special kudos go out to the sensational young Swedish guitarist Susanna Risberg, who—as heard here with her trio—worked imaginatively within a clean-toned jazz guitar approach. Most importantly, she captured our attention with her unpredictable, nuanced musicality."*

- Josef Woodard, *Downbeat Magazine*

*"One of Sweden's most interesting jazz guitarists."*  
- Johannes Cornell, *Dagens Nyheter*



"On Saturday two concerts stood out from the rest: the solo performance of young Swedish guitarist Susanna Risberg and the appearance of trumpeter [Ambrose Akinmusire](#) with his quartet ... Susanna Risberg, a musician from the youngest generation, is a prime example of soberness and precision. The pureness and fluency of her playing were irresistible, far out of the ordinary. Maybe Julian Lage or [Jakob Bro](#) have a bit of the same in their playing. Risberg's playing is free of electronics and distortion. She has a crisp, crystal clear tone free of reverb with large space around. It's a confident voice of solitude. She played sophisticated pieces in a light, effortless way. It was something else quite an experience. I guess we will hear and see more of her music making."

- [Henning Bolte](#), *All About Jazz (Ljubljana Jazz Festival 2017)*

"Young Swedish guitarist Susanna Risberg was a highlight of this year's (2016) Umea festival. A brilliantly expansive soloist with a rapier attack, the Berklee graduate could make a real impact if she translates her live shows into a coherent studio recording."

- [Kevin Le Gendre](#), *Jazzwisemagazine.com*

"Sweden's Susanna Risberg ..... stakes a strong claim as a potentially significant new arrival in contemporary jazz ..... Many of her pieces have pleasingly askew melodic lines and rhythmic frameworks that shift between the dynamic and static, introducing welcome subtleties into moments when the improvisations reach fever pitch. Risberg has some of the piercing, steely tonal richness of maverick players in the mould of Gábor Szabó, and she deconstructs themes with an eye-of-the-needle precision, finding myriad phrasal variations, often in volleys of quicksilver sixteenth notes, while keeping tight on the pulse of the music."

- [Kevin Le Gendre](#), *Jazzwisemagazine.com*

"Jazz guitarist Susanna Risberg's new album (*Vilddjur*) is modern jazz at its best... Risberg's technique is brilliant and she uses this ability for the advantage of the tunes instead of "showing off". This is one the things that makes Susanna Risberg a great guitarist"

- [Lennart Götesson](#), *Dala-Demokraten*

"The 'only male music references' meets resistance in the live accompaniment guitarist Susanna Risberg's cool existence, without a single word she affects the entire play."

- [Maina Arvas](#), *Dagens Nyheter (Review of "LEIF")*

"Here there is fiery guitar playing that really gets you in the gut.... She grabs a hold of you who listen and guides you through the structure of the music."

- [Johan Hauknes](#), *salt peanuts\**

"It's technically brilliant of all involved and musically almost scary good ... Susanna - as I have understood it - has been a bit hyped during the recent years, and with all right. What I often miss in the jazz scene is attitude, but here there is plenty of it..."

- [Örjan Furberg](#), *Västerbottens-Kuriren*

"I appreciate that she with no doubt will become one of Sweden's foremost guitarists"

- [Janne Schaffer](#), 2007

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