

## Nicols –Kraabel –Hug GB/CH

MAGGIE NICOLS voice

CHARLOTTE HUG viola, voice

CAROLINE KRAABEL alto saxophone, voice

**Together, the three voices - two instrumental voices and Nicols, who uses her voice as an instrument, subsuming herself in the instrumental interplay - abandon the preconceived and tap into the directness of the pre-verbal. That's also the key for entering this music as a listener: abandoning preconceptions and mediating thought in order to hear the music directly. *Phil England***

"One of the most interesting trio improvisations I've heard lately, this CD showcases three different talents in a mixture of personalities resulting in a cohesive, coherent musical exploration. Maggie Nicols' voice gives birth to a constantly shifting palette of colours, extracting any single nuance you can get in a tone or in just a 'vocal gesture'; Caroline Kraabel uses her sax trying to counterpoint as perfectly as one can do - without having a score in front of her - with noteworthy technique and inventiveness; Charlotte Hug brings a spicy, '20th century' Weberian aroma to the concoction, defining this music with a character that's all its own. Great interplay and never a dull moment in almost one hour of music, I'd like to hear more from this formation."

MASSIMO RICCI - TOUCHING EXTREMES 2002

"There are not enough women in free improvisation. Coming across an all-female trio like this one, the statistic becomes a burden: we need more women in free improvisation! It would probably be cliché to write about the special sensibility and sensuality they bring to the genre, something no man can emulate, but the fact remains that this session between vocalist Maggie Nicols, saxophonist Caroline Kraabel and viola player Charlotte Hug is pure gold and that one wishes there were more like it to go around. The acoustics of the Conway Hall apply extra lustre over the seven pieces. The three musicians move like a three-headed entity, but Nicols' distinctive voice tends to lead them. Not that she shuts out input from the other two, but her 'voice' is the most distinctive of the group and it acts like a pied piper. The highlight is Hymn Indoors, incredibly synergistic and rapturing - this track should never end, mostly because of Hug's microtonal textures. Highly recommended." FRANÇOIS COUTURE - ALL-MUSIC GUIDE



<http://www.maggienicols.com/> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caroline\\_Kraabel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caroline_Kraabel) <http://www.charlottehug.ch>