

Hans Dal

Works for Solo Guitar

Søren Bødker Madsen

Hans Dal (b. 1945)

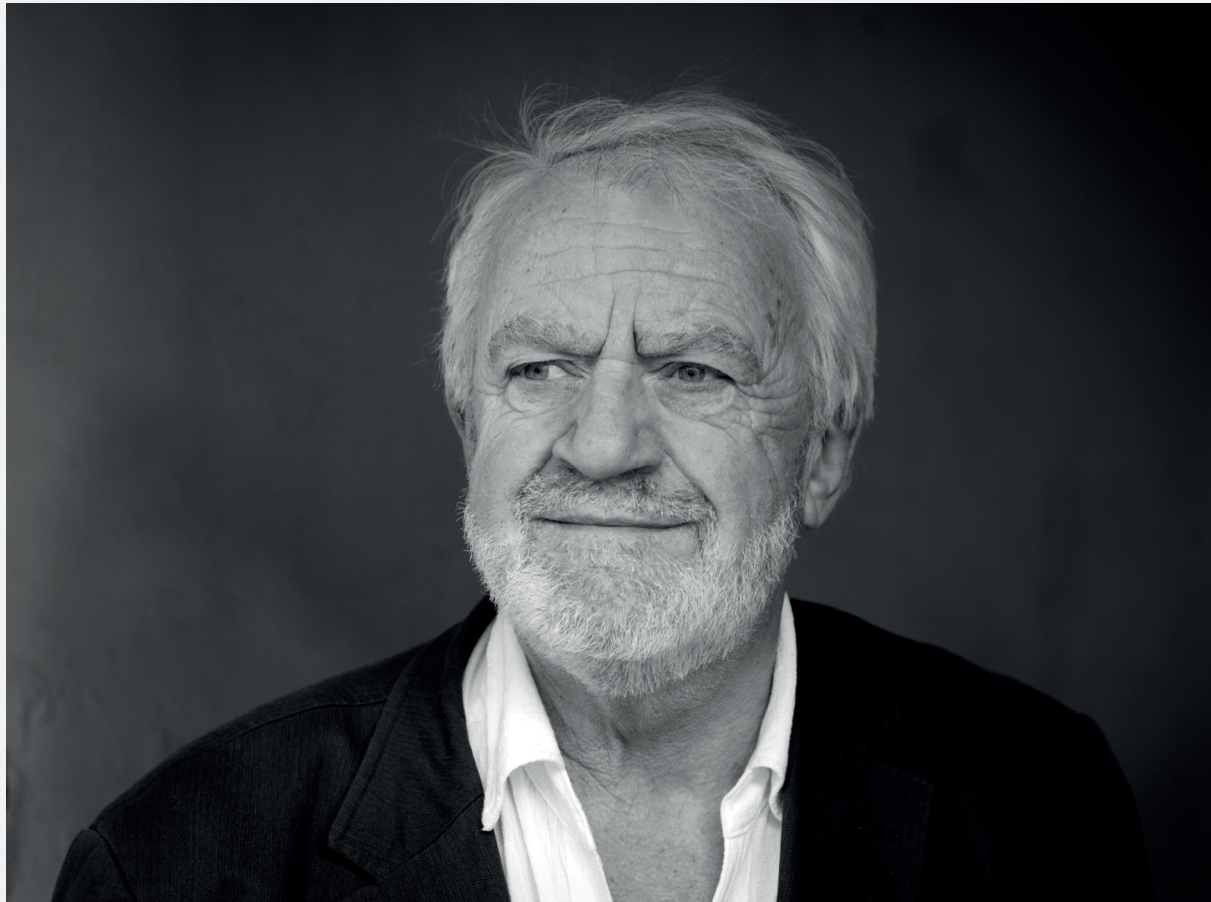
Works for Solo Guitar

Søren Bødker Madsen, guitar

1	Grande valse (2011)	2:39
2	Valse petite (2013)	1:56
3	Silhuetter (Silhouettes) (2012)	3:35
4	Autumn Leaves (2009, rev. 2021)	2:59
5	Timeglasset (The Hourglass) (2010)	2:47

Total 13:58

World premiere recording



Hans Dal

From Truck Drama to Guitar Artistry

By the Editorial Staff

It all began with a truck drama: *Langturschauffør (Long-Haul Truck Driver)* (1981) by Peter Ringgaard, a social realist film depicting a group of long-haul truck drivers and their struggles to maintain family life while spending most of their time on the road. Additionally, they fall victim to an insurance fraud scheme devised by their employers and the Southern European mafia.

Hans Dal himself points out that his journey as a composer received a crucial push thanks to the soundtrack of this particular film. Despite the film's modest success in cinemas, it opened the door to a realisation of his abilities as a composer, especially on the guitar. This became pivotal for Dal's career in the film and TV industry, where he is particularly remembered for his contribution to the beloved Christmas TV calendar, *Nissebanden*. A series that continues to be regularly rerun on Danish television, where Dal, in addition to overseeing the entire soundtrack, also took on the role of the secret agent elf A-38.

Hans Dal, a trained guitarist from the Royal Danish Academy of Music with teaching experience from the National Theatre School, the Academy and Frederiksberg Seminary over 30 years, has left a significant mark on the Danish music scene since the 1960s. Besides composing music for various films and plays, he made an important discovery during his own study years: the classical guitar repertoire felt limited in its expression.

Hans Dal reacted by taking on the challenge. So, he began composing music tailored to his own instrument. The five works on this release have not been published before and not only demonstrate that Dal places significant demands on his guitarists but also show his passion for exploring the guitar's potential as a melodic instrument on par with the piano.

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My works are tonal and melodic, and they may not fit under what some describe as 'good taste'.

As a composer, Hans Dal openly reflects on his own music and insists that his composer's heart will always beat strongest for beautiful themes, regardless of the musical trends of the time. He sees his work as a composer as a unique opportunity to evoke emotions and touch other people, and for him, it is not just a writing process; it is an inner necessity, an irresistible urge:

'I write music because it is my passion, my calling, and something I simply cannot refrain from. But when I delve into the process, I face the realisation that I may be considered old-fashioned. I have said it before, my works are tonal and melodic, and they may not fit under what some describe as 'good taste'. But I possess the ability to create themes – even some quite good ones, if I may say so myself,' says Hans Dal.

Hans Dal's dedication to melodic and tonal compositions may be perceived as old-fashioned, but it is precisely this unique approach that makes his music timeless.



Søren Bødker Madsen

Fra lastbildrama til guitarkunst

Af redaktionen

Det begyndte med et lastbildrama: *Langturschauffør* (1981) af Peter Ringgaard, en socialrealistisk film om en gruppe langturschauffører og deres vanskeligheder med at bevare et familieliv, når de er på landevejen det meste af tiden. Tilmed bliver de ofre for et forsikrings-svindelnnummer, udtænkt af deres arbejdsgivere og den sydeuropæiske mafia.

Hans Dal selv peger på, at hans rejse som komponist fik et afgørende skub takket være soundtracket til netop denne film. For til trods for filmens beskedne succes i biografen åbnede den døren for en erkendelse af egne evner til at kunne formulere sig som komponist, særligt på guitar. Dette blev afgørende for Dals karriere inden for film- og tv-verdenen, hvor han især huskes for sit bidrag til den elskede julekalender, *Nissebanden*. En serie som fortsat jævnligt genudsendes i dansk fjernsyn, og hvor Dal, foruden at stå bag hele julekalenderens soundtrack, også indtog rollen som agentnissen A-38.

Hans Dal, der er uddannet guitarist fra Det Kongelige Danske Musikkonservatorium med undervisningserfaring fra Statens Teaterskole, musikkonservatoriet og Frederiksberg Seminarium gennem cirka 30 år, har sat sit markante præg på den danske musikscene siden 1960'erne. Ud over at have komponeret musik til forskellige film og teaterstykker gjorde han også en vigtig opdagelse under sin egen studietid – det klassiske guitarrepertoire føltes begrænset i sit udtryk.

Hans Dals reagerede ved at tage udfordringen op. Så han begyndte at skrive musik skræddersyet til sit eget instrument. De fem værker på denne udgivelse er hidtil ikke været udgivet og viser ikke kun, at Dal stiller betydelige krav til sine guitarister, men også at han brænder for at udforske guitarens potentiale som melodiinstrument på linje med klaveret.

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Mine værker er tonale og melodiske, og de falder måske ikke ind under det, nogle betegner som 'god smag'.

Som komponist reflekterer Hans Dal ganske åbent over egen sin musik og insisterer på, at hans komponisthjerne altid vil banke kraftigst for smukke temaer, uanset hvad tidens trends måtte foreskrive. Han ser sit arbejde som komponist som en unik mulighed for at vække følelser og berøre andre, og for ham er det ikke bare en skriveproces; det er en indre nødvendighed, en trang: "Jeg skriver musik, fordi det er min passion, mit kald, og noget jeg simpelthen ikke kan lade være med. Men når jeg dykker ned i processen, står jeg over for erkendelsen af, at jeg nok betragtes som gammeldags. Jeg har sagt det før, mine værker er tonale og melodiske, og de falder måske ikke ind under det, nogle betegner som 'god smag'. Men jeg besidder en evne til at skabe temaer – endda nogle ganske gode, hvis jeg selv må sige det," siger Hans Dal.

Hans Dals dedikation til melodiske og tonale kompositioner kan måske betragtes som gammeldags, men det er netop denne særlige tilgang, der gør hans musik tidløs.

Renowned Danish guitarist **Søren Bødker Madsen** received his musical education from the Royal Academy in Aarhus and the Vienna Conservatory, earning his soloist distinction in 1984.

In 1986, he secured first place at the international Kutha Hora guitar competition in the Czech Republic, besting over 100 participants. Since 1981, Madsen has been teaching at Kolding Music School and from 1988 to 1992 at the Royal Academy in Aarhus, focusing on guitar and pedagogy.

Madsen, also an esteemed author, has written five instructional books in the *Spil guitar* series (*Play Guitar*). Beyond teaching, he's made a mark with 11 solo albums, highlighting his extraordinary musical talent.

Den virtuose danske guitarist **Søren Bødker Madsen** har sin musikuddannelse fra Det Jyske Musikkonservatorium samt musikkonservatoriet i Wien, hvorfra han tog fik sin solistuddannelse med udmærkelse i 1984.

I 1986 sikrede han sig førstepladsen ved den internationale Kutha Hora-guitarkonkurrence i Tjekkiet, hvor over 100 guitarister deltog. Siden 1981 har han undervist på Kolding Musikskole og fra 1988 til 1992 på Det Jyske Musikkonservatorium, med fokus på guitar og pædagogik.

Søren Bødker Madsen er også en anerkendt lærebogsforfatter og har skrevet fem undervisningsbøger i *Spil guitar*-serien. Udover sin undervisning har han markeret sig med 11 soloalbum.

Recorded at Maagetown Studios, Aarhus, January 2023

Recording producer: Malte Bødker Madsen

Engineering, editing, mixing and mastering: Malte
Bødker Madsen

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Liner notes written by the Editorial Staff

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