

## **William Tatge Trio - General Cargo**

“General Cargo” is my third album as leader and the first to be recorded with a New York based band, featuring Pablo Menares on bass and Nick Anderson on drums.

It consists of compositions written over a six year period (2010-2015) following my move to New York from Florence, Italy.

The pieces are all rather extended in duration, highly structured in form, and contain more through-composed material than is usually found in the jazz piano trio context. The improvisational sections often change from soloist to soloist and there are seldom perfect recapitulations of thematic material. My intention was to create larger pieces that could hold up structurally while maintaining a sense of openness and unpredictability, leaving enough space for interpretation and improvisational freedom.

The writing and playing reflect a strong connection to jazz as well as to 19th and 20th century classical music, with an occasional wink at rock and roll and other influences. I have always been fascinated by the way musical ideas, approaches and behaviors can travel through history and between styles, being transformed, reinterpreted or distorted, acquiring new purpose and meaning.

The coming together of these different elements is not always a smooth process. Sometimes it results in stark contrasts, in a sense of unresolved conflict. Much of the material in this record is deeply indebted to the music and literature of late romanticism and early modernism; times of transition, great discoveries and linguistic breakdowns, but also times of desperate nostalgia towards a disappearing world.

Perhaps this music is the result of finding myself in the strange state of a repatriated expat torn between two continents and aesthetic traditions, unable to truly leave either of them behind.

The title of this work may be read as referring to this personal, cultural and historical cargo I attempt to protect and carry forward.

William Tatge.