



Bass Legend Ron Carter Debuts Original Compositions with Extended Orchestra, The WDR Big Band, on *My Personal Songbook*

Available September 4 on IN+OUT Records

Ron Carter's elegant, sophisticated and delicate tone, as well as his extraordinary sense of timing, have informed generations of bassists and have had a tremendous impact on the musical genre as a whole.

My Personal Songbook is the first recording of the grand master's original compositions performed by an extended orchestra to be released. This exceptional recording took place in January 2013, when Carter appeared with **The WDR Big Band** in Cologne. Three acclaimed concerts with The WDR Big Band in Geneva, Zürich, and Essen followed and strengthened the master bassist's wish to extend the collaboration.

Naturally, The WDR Big Band acceded to his wish, because apart from the fact that Carter is one of the leading bassists in the history of jazz, the musical vibes between the WDR Big Band and the famed guest soloist were highly compatible from the start. One may wonder why such a diligent musician as Carter did not work with the large format before; it was only in 2011 that he formed a big band of his own. With the WDR Big Band and the album *My Personal Songbook*, he goes further in presenting himself as a brilliant double bass player and innovative soloist.

Being cast with truly exquisite soloists, the WDR Big Band is a perfect match for Carter, who is full of praises: "It honors a radio station to insist on this music and to make such a large band format happen. Being professional, flexible and having the brilliant musicality of these musicians also add to this project." Carter chose ten pieces for the project, which were, and still are, of tremendous influence in his life. **Richard DeRosa**, principal conductor of **The WDR Big Band**, contributed the arrangements for his orchestra. The result is a sound which pays attention to the lush big band tone as well as to the sophisticated solo parts and allows both to fully bloom. An extra highlight is the additional DVD with tracks as well as film footage.

About Ron Carter

Carter was born on May 4th, 1937, and at the age of ten, very shortly after he started to play the cello, he switched to the double bass. After his collaboration on the Gil Evans's masterpiece, "Out Of The Cool," he became recognized by wider audiences in 1960. In '63, he achieved international recognition, playing with jazz legend Miles Davis' second quintet, of which he was a member until 1968.

Carter can be heard on more than 2,500 recordings. He not only contributed to the jazz genre, but to the history of the music of the 20th and 21st centuries in general. Musicians such as Cannonball Adderley, Freddie Hubbard, Quincy Jones, Herbie Hancock and McCoy Tyner have appreciated his exquisite tone and professional craftsmanship during his illustrious career. His extraordinary bass lines have also contributed to hip hop music, in particular A Tribe Called Quest's *The Low End Theory*, ushering Carter in as a front line supporter/recognizer of the jazz/hip-hop convergence.

Milestones of his truly exceptional, vital and multifaceted career are on the set list. It is Carter's virtuosic technique, his sensitivity for sounds and his brilliantly performed timing that make his bass voice so outstanding and classic. Carter guarantees consistency and premium quality. Since the early 1960s, when he was part of the Miles Davis Quintet, he tirelessly goes for the utmost perfect double bass sound. That is why colleagues, experts and audiences alike have appreciated Carter for decades.

Ron Carter and The WDR Big Band · *My Personal Songbook*
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