



Review for "JAZZ BANJO MAGAZINE", by John Mumford

STUNG!

Arno Hagenars

This is the most exciting CD to come along since I have been review CDs. This recording does not have any of the traditional banjo music that you would expect to hear on a four string banjo. Arno has truly crossed over into the world of jazz and improvisation. The banjo has not seen a lot of interest by younger players to take up the instrument but with this sound there could be a revelation. The best way to describe it is to imagine a jazz piano player playing but the sound is coming from a tenor banjo.

I played this CD to some top jazz players in Denver and they were blown away with what Arno was doing. Bela Fleck developed a whole new interest for the five string banjo by crossing over from bluegrass to jazz. I hope that Arno's CD will be the CD that takes the banjo into the modern world of music. Arno will also impress you with the one song that is a song from the past - Harry Reser's, *Crackerjack*. He also will tease you with another song by Harry Reser - *Oh! Boy, What a Girl*. The song serves as a basis for further improvisation after the second time through.

Look for an interview with Arno Hagenars in a future issue of Jazz Banjo Magazine.

John Mumford