



*"Closing The Circle is a wonderful addition to the piano trio repertoire and highly recommended to lovers of the genre" ★★★★★*

Jan Veldman, Jazz In Europe.

# Arik Strauss Trio

## CLOSING THE CIRCLE

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# ABOUT "CLOSING THE CIRCLE"



## Arik Strauss Trio CLOSING THE CIRCLE

1. CLOSING THE CIRCLE (5:53)
2. MORNING GLORY (5:41)
3. FOR ANDREA (5:21)
4. BAD HARZBURG (5:27)
5. DOING IT (6:40)
6. SERENITY (4:45)
7. OFF TO BERLIN (5:14)
8. NICHT SO LAUT (3:32)
9. SONG FOR AMY (5:53)
10. TEARS OF JOY (6:06)
11. NEVE TZEDEK (3:18)

*All compositions by Arik Strauss*

**ARIK STRAUSS:** Piano

**ANDREA MARCELLI:** Drums

**JONATHAN ROBINSON:** Bass

**JOE KUCERA:** Soprano Saxophone (track 9)

**SIGAL ADLER STRAUSS:** Vocals (tracks 5, 9 & 10)

Arik Strauss's new release (8th album), "Closing The Circle" once again sees the pianist in a trio setting. The album presents a brand new set of original compositions composed since Arik relocated from Tel Aviv to Berlin, closing the circle left open by his family who had to leave Germany when the horrors of the second world war were about to break, a concept that is the red line throughout this recording. The compositions on the album pay respect to the tradition while at the same time looking forward.

*Recorded at: Tonlabor, AudioCue Studios, Berlin*

*Recorded and mixed by: Rainer Robben*

*Mastered by Rainer Robben at Tonlabor, AudioCue Studios, Berlin*

*Produced by Arik Strauss*

*Cover Photos by Itzik Canetti*

*Additional Photography by Christian Duxa*

*Artwork by Andrew Read at DQB Design*



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# ABOUT ARIK STRAUSS



Arik Strauss is a pianist, composer/arranger and educator. Arik was initially trained as a classical pianist however in his twenties, being influenced by great jazz musicians, decided to go to New York to learn and master the art. In New York he studied with Jack Reilly and later with Richie Beirach and performed with top musicians such as Ron McClure, Akira Tana and Shonzo Ono to name a few. In this period Arik performed in many leading jazz clubs in the USA, including among others Birdland, Yardbird Suite, New York, and Blue Moon, Philadelphia, as well as touring Japan. During his stay in New York Strauss worked with Mercer Ellington as the arranger of a tribute to his father Duke Ellington.

In 1998 Arik returned to his native Israel where he was tasked with creating the jazz department and teaching at the School of the Arts in Jerusalem and later also in the Givaataim music school. It was in this period that Arik commenced his career as a leader recording a number of albums in various settings. The first release in this period was the album titled "Songs" that included material recorded while still in New York combined with new material recorded in Israel. This album was followed by a duo recording with Israeli bassist Eli Magen and a solo album titled "Music Pangs".

In 2010 Strauss was selected by the Israeli Ministry of Culture as their representative for the artist-in-residence program at the Cité

International des Arts in Paris. During his stay in Paris Arik focused on composing and forging links with the Paris Jazz scene. In 2012 Arik formed his first Trio with Tal Ronen, Bass and Dudu Kochav on Drums. Later that year the trio entered the studio to record their first album titled "Mostly Ballads" released by the American label Dot Time Records. The album was recorded with the support of ACUM's social and promotion fund and features mainly material written during the Paris period. This album established Arik outside the borders of Israel and received strong reviews.

During the following years Strauss produced another two albums for the label, a second solo piano album titled "Adeiu Tristesse" in 2015 (once again with the support of ACUM's social and promotion fund) and in 2016 the follow up trio album titled "In Spite Of All" this time with Gasper Bertonceij on drums.

In 2016 Arik relocated to Berlin (where he quickly became established in the city's jazz scene), in effect closing a circle or even two.

## Watch Arik Strauss on Video



**Arik Strauss Trio**  
*Closing The Circle Album Promo*



**Arik Strauss Trio**  
*Live at the Schlöt Jazz Club Berlin 2018*

*“Arik Strauss plays with a refined sense of feeling and sensitivity somewhere between Bill Evans and Frederic Chopin....”*

Jakob Baekgaard – All About Jazz

*“When listening to this album it’s evident that this incarnation of the Arik Strauss trio has developed a level of interplay where three voices combine as one.”*

Jan Veldman, Jazz In Europe.



#### **BOOKING & PRESS INQUIRIES**

To book the Arik Strauss Trio, schedule interviews or request more information, please contact:

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