

Austrian bassist Gina Schwarz's new quintet release crackles with excitement and energy. The compositions are sharp and edgy, and the performances, featuring drummer Jim Black, saxophonist – bass clarinetist Fabian Rucker, and, of course, Schwarz's exemplary bass work, are exhilarating. A particular highlight is her lovely piece, "From Shenandoah," dedicated to the late bassist Charlie Haden.

*Bob Bernota – 08/16*