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# LITTLE RED SUITCASE

JOHANNA BORCHERT, PIANO & ELENA SETIÉN, VOCAL AND VIOLIN

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## ABOUT LITTLE RED SUITCASE & SHORT BIOGRAPHY

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»BROKEN SMELLY ACCORDEON, THE CAT STEPPING ON PIANOKEYS,  
MUM FRYING EGGS IN THE EVENING, PLAYING A HORN FROM THE ALPS  
ON A BALCONY, SCREAMING AT THE BEACH«

### — ABOUT LITTLE RED SUITCASE —

Though the band's two members originally met in Copenhagen, Little Red Suitcase was born in Zarautz, a small village by the Cantabric sea in Spain, at an improvised jam session, on a hot afternoon, in »the hours of the siesta« on July 2005. Since, Little Red Suitcase has played concerts in Norway, Greenland, Spain, Germany, USA, Holland, France, United Kingdom, Sweden and Denmark, at venues such as: The Stone in New York, Chillida Leku in San Sebastián, B Flat in Berlin, Jazz Club Dexter, Giant Steps, Copenhagen Jazz House and the Copenhagen Jazz Festival in Denmark. The band has also played at various European and American jazz festivals such as Berlin Jazz Festival, London Jazz Festival, Rochester Jazz Festival, Ottawa Jazz Festival, Grenoble Jazz Festival, among others.

Their debut album, They'll know much more than we'll never know, was nominated in 2007 in the category »Best vocal jazz release« at the Danish Music Awards. Temporarily Out of Order – the second album from Little Red Suitcase – was released in October 2008. The album received a prize from The Danish Arts Council and was again nominated in the category »Best vocal jazz release« at the Danish Music Awards 2009. Their newest CD is a collaboration with Danish poet Lars Skinnebach. »Enhver betydning er også en mislyd« was released at ILK, the independent Copenhagen based collective label.

Future projects include a new release in 2011 with their small big band, Little Red Big Bang and concerts at summer jazz festivals in Europe.

### — ABOUT THE MUSIC —

In spite of a strong and disciplined compositional base, Little Red Suitcase has improvisation as its primary condition. The music is a curious mixture of enthusiastic folksong storytelling, romantic grandiosity and urgent fatalism with the recurring question; what will pop out of the suitcase next?

— JOHANNA BORCHERT, SHORT BIOGRAPHY —

Johanna Borchert was born 1983 in Berlin, Germany. After years of classical training she studied Jazzpiano at the Universität der Künste in Berlin and at the Rytmisk Musikkonservatorium in Copenhagen where she now lives. Here she has become an engaged participant of the young and energetic jazz-avantgardescene of the capital. Her musical background and inspiration can be found in classical music — such as that of Bach, Debussy and Bartók, in jazzmusic — naming influences such as Bill Evans and Keith Jarrett — and finally modern classical and contemporary music with composers such as Messiaen, Cage and Ligeti. Apart from the above mentioned sources of inspiration, a long term stay in India where she studied classical indian »carnatic« music has an impact on her musical expression.

Johanna Borchert is both sideman and Co-leader of several bands and musical projects, notably Schneeweiss & Rosenrot, and has recently founded the group Borchert Sextett.

— ELENA SETIÉN, SHORT BIOGRAPHY —

Elena Setián was born in San Sebastián-Donostia, Spain, in 1977. In 1999 she graduated from Roehampton Institute London with a first Class Honours BA degree in classical violin and composition. From 1999 to 2002 she lived in Barcelona where she taught violin and music theory. In 2002 she moved to Copenhagen, Denmark, where she was admitted as student at the Rhythmical Conservatory.

Apart from playing in Little Red Suitcase, she has also participated in a number of different musical projects such as the debut album of Simon Toldam's Prugelknabe, the Karen Bach's trio, the bigband Stormchasers conducted by Django Bates, Murder's latest CD, as well as collaborating with Enric Montfort and Kimbala writing the music for »Cuentos« – a children's theater piece, and co-writing with guitarist Jonas Struck for a new film by the danish film director Ole Christian Madsen.

— BOOKING & INFO —

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shoestring\_jazz\_booking / Tobias Schuster / Reuterstr. 40 / D-12047 Berlin  
info@shoestring-jazz.de / Tel.: +49(0)30-25019427 / Tel./Fax: +49(0)30-60405021  
Mobil: +49(0)179-1215414 / www.shoestring-jazz.de

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SAID ABOUT LITTLE RED SUITCASE & REVIEWS

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— TEMPORARILY OUT OF ORDER, 2009 —

»Opposites attract in the universe of this duo, which is both solemn and humorous.

—*Jakob Bækgaard, Geiger Magazine*

»The result is princess jazz from a dollhouse, where Nora has left home long ago. Adjustable spanners and white lace dresses clash in a girly universe, where odd collisions is the daily disorder.« —*Thomas Michelsen, Politiken*

»A warm and refreshing duo who are not afraid to play with original ideas and imaginative whimsies. With their theatrical and narrative pieces, these two women – Elena Setién (vocals and violin) and Johanna Borchert (vocals and piano) – represent an extremely positive contribution to the young Danish rhythmic musical scene, with music that, fortunately, is very difficult to categorize.« —*The Danish Art Council*

— ENHVER BETYDNING, 2010 —

»Musikken og teksterne er på én gang brutal og følsom, rodet og struktureret, hysterisk og afdæmpet. En skøn vildskab er tilstede, som gør, at man aldrig lules i søvn af ordenes strøm.«

—*Geiger Magazine*

— USA TOUR, 2010 —

»With the abstract, quirky beauty of Robyn Hitchcock mixed with the delicate romanticism of Blossom Dearie, Jane Siberry and Kate Bush and a last dash of early Kronos Quartet, Denmark's, Little Red Suitcase is a blast of refreshing cool air in 2010. Hard to categorize, Little Red Suitcase span the spectrum of jazz, alternative and avant garde. Utilizing unfamiliar song structures and vocal dynamics, the duo layer their music with delicate touches of both improvisation and straight forward emotion – all resulting in an amazingly interesting and different listening experience.«

—*Jazz Wrap, The Intersection*

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# LITTLE RED BIG BANG

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ABOUT »LITTLE RED BIG BANG«

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— LINE-UP —

Elena Setién (voc) Johanna Borchert (piano) Jonas Westergaard (bass)  
Peter Bruun (drums) Jesper Løvdal (sax) Jeppe Højgaard (sax) Kevin Christensen (trombone)  
Jakob Munk (tuba) Jimmy Nygaard (trumpet)

— ABOUT THE NEW ALBUM —

»Well, we started to collect suitcases, first only small red ones, then other small ones in different colours. Lately they became bigger and bigger. Our Little Red Big Bang is the biggest suitcase we have so far.«

The composers Elena Setién and Johanna Borchert like to combine written music with free improvised music. They like clearness, comitment to music and musicianship as well as they like to break rules and make room for unexpected craziness.

The album will feature 13 new compositions by their Setién/Borchert duo. Written especially with the line-up of musicians in mind. The compositions range from catchy brass pop arrangements to nerdy Ligethi inspired tongue twisters. From a »Will we ever meet again.« ballad to a Rainer Maria Rilke „Herbst“ poem set to music.

The album has been recorded during september 2010 at the We Know Music Studio in Copenhagen. Live in the studio in order to catch the live improvised spirit between the musicians, whom all are key players on the danish and international jazzscene.

— ADDITIONAL INFO —

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— RELEASE DATE —

Late 2011 on Ilk Music > <http://www.ilkmusic.com>

— YOU CAN PRE-LISTEN TO TRACKS FROM THE ALBUM HERE —

<http://soundcloud.com/pg-special-agent/sets/little-red-suitcase-big-band>

— TRACKLIST FOR ENTIRE ALBUM WILL BE —

1. In a butternutshell
  2. Copenhagen Airport
  3. In your fishpond Mr. Bond
  4. Herbst
  5. Mad Waltz
  6. Pigeon
  7. Thoughts on a station platform
  8. Tik Tak Skak
  9. Vonwohin
  10. Waldspaziergang
  11. Why do I have to care?
  12. Weird Blues
  13. Will we ever meet again?
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