

By Naomi Jean,
Concert Report

June 19, 2016 at "Donau 115", Berlin

Impressions of the 'Johnny, Go Free' concert in the packed sauna that was Donau115 last night. (I didn't get a photo... Anyone have one to share?)

These three melt together in a perfect fondant, a Belgian truffle of sound that melts in our mouth ... ears... soul.

Greg Cohen's bass rocks us on an irresistible sea.

Fabiana Striffler's violin is a sprite, as mercurial as the wind, with deliciously human grain in its detail.

Zola Mennenöh's voice is a cloud...but a fantasy cloud, the kind we float around on in our dreams... divine, intimate and crisp.

The buoyancy and richness of this tiny orchestra render the compositions of Johnny Frigo and his era with timeless relevance. Each vignette rings with reverence for love and living, covering a spectrum of deep humor, edge and elegance that is deliciously reflected by the minute attentions of each musician to every nuance.

Listening in these incongruously tropical conditions in downtown Berlin, we are utterly moved, swept away, in love, seduced, innocent again - in a way that seems to belong to bygone days, yet we find it still alive in our hearts here listening to these three.

We forget the rest in this delicate bubble of music that never gets old when handled with care.

Thank you for the music!