

## ***the bassface swing trio plays Gershwin - Direct-to-Disc-LP + SACD-Hybrid***

SFR 357.8045.1 - limited edition (audiophile 180g-pressing, numbered and signed by hand)

**Direct-to-disc** has been and still is the biggest challenge in audiophile music production. Unforgettable are the works of Sheffield, Jeton and courageous cutting engineers like Stan Ricker, who out-maxed the technical possibilities of that time by provocative back-cutting.

Stockfisch-Records perfectly meets the conditions for such a fascinating vinyl adventure: A **recording studio** with an outstanding FAZIOLI grand piano (model F 228) - the soundboards of these pianos are built of precious Red Spruce from Val di Fiemme in the Western Italian Alps, the same wood Stradivarius had used in his instruments -, an in-house **vinyl cutting lathe** and contacts to numerous **ingenious musicians** built up over many years.

There are several ways to approach such a project. **We decided to go strictly analog.** To maintain this cohesion, we kept all recording paths, the mix and the signal path to the cutting head of our VMS-80 cutting lathe analog.

What makes the result particularly interesting is the splitting of the analog stereo sum into three destinations. In addition to the signal for DMM cutting, we converted the mix into highest-grade DSD format (DIRECT STREAM DIGITAL/2,8224 MHz) - using a 1-bit converter - and into conventional digital audio format, 16-bit/44.1 kHz PCM, as well.

This direct-to-disc vinyl record comes with a **SACD** (DSD 2channel-layer) which also contains a CD-hybrid-layer. This seems to be the first opportunity ever available to compare three formats originating from the same analog source and transferred unaltered into two digital formats.

**Music** On January 13, 2007 **the bassface swing trio** landed in Stockfisch Studios. These amazingly talented musicians with nerves of steel are: Thilo Wagner - piano, Jean-Philippe Wadle - upright bass, Florian Hermann - drums. They played Gershwin, celebrating and improvising this music breathtakingly - and swinging! **the bassface swing trio** performed their program twice for the A and B sides and chose cut A1 and B2 for this vinyl pressing.

### **Technology**

Cutting lathe:	Neumann VMS-80, DMM (Direct Metal Mastering)
Desks:	SONOSAX SX-S and SX-ST
Microphones:	GEFELL UM-75, MB 608 CL and the first microphones of our own development with the legendary NEUMANN M7 capsule and transformerless tube design
Digital Converters:	emmLabs ADC8 Mk IV (DSD) and NEXUS 28-bit (PCM)
Dynamics:	ELYSIA alpha compressor and DRAWMER S3
Speakers:	STRAUSS Mastering-Monitor SE-MF-2
Power amps:	FLYING MOLE DAD-M100 ( <i>distributed by Pauler Acoustics</i> )

**The sound people** Hans-Jörg Maucksch, Christian Struck, Hendrik Pauler and Günter Pauler.

Enjoy this wonderful music! We'd like to thank the editors of AUDIO and STEREO for their skillfull assistance throughout this project.

Günter Pauler