

## Via Mavis – Press EN

The title of Via Mavis' debut album, "Aerial Perspectives", is inspired by a particular art technique -the simulation of changes caused by the atmosphere on the colors of distant objects. It corresponds to a central element of the album – a certain blending of genres, timbres, colors. The outlines between acoustic and electronic music are softened, less distinct, as well as the contrasts between contemporary jazz, art pop and rock elements.

The 8 original compositions of the trio are all in a different mood and style, connected by some common elements, which serve as a signature of the band. "Aerial Perspectives" was recorded and released in 2021 for Enovae Records with the support of the National Culture Fond.

Friends since the Music High School in Sofia, in 2018 the three members of Via Mavis decide to reunite despite the fact that all three are based in different European cities. The solution is obvious: alternating the meeting point between hometown Sofia and the cities, in which the three Bulgarians are based: Viktor Benev (malletKAT, electronics) lives in Paris, Victoria Kirilova (double bass) – in Vienna and the drummer Martin Hafizi – in Rotterdam.

The original tunes of the trio are a combination of various influences, such as traditional and modern jazz and some subgenres of electronic music and of the common background of the three of them– classical music and Bulgarian folklore. Another thing, which makes the trio rather unusual, is the use of the MalletKAT: it provides a versatile palette of sounds, provoking new explorations and presenting a new "read" of the classical piano-like trio.

The musicians of the trio have performed as soloists of the Big Band of the Bulgarian National Radio, at Radio Plovdiv, A to Jazz Festival - Sofia, Varna Summer Festival. In 2020, they rank among the six groups of the official showcase program at the European Jazz Conference.

*"A few years ago I listened to Via Mavis for the first time. Intriguing, contemporary original music that builds its own language and sonority. The three young musicians do not follow the paved road of the performer, looking for dividends from what was created before them, but as real artists try to upgrade and develop it "It fills me with pride and hope!"*

Antoni Donchev, conductor of the Big Band of the Bulgarian National Radio, jazz pianist

*"The compositions of the trio simultaneously provoke the imagination and create an atmosphere with colors and sounds. Their ideas are bold, earnest and charming. "*

Ivan Notev, Bulgarian National Radio