Alon Farber Hagiga

Yossi Zwecker ©

About The Band

Hagiga in Hebrew means “celebration” and in our music we celebrate the cultural divergence of our Israeli heritage. Hagiga is inspired by the variety of musical flavors and colors of the “Israeli soundtrack”. Our compositions cross musical genres and are influenced by Swing, Moroccan, Funk and Brazilian backgrounds. It is this unique "celebration” of original Israeli jazz that is Hagiga .

Alon Farber Hagiga was founded in 2001 by Alon Farber and Dani Benedikt, and have since then released three albums: "Exposure" and "Optimistic View" were released by Fresh Sound Records (Barcelona). Nathan Halaway from jazzreviews.com named Hagiga "one of the finer groups that the Fresh Sound label has produced". "New Directions", released by QFTF (Berlin), prompted internationally acclaimed saxophonist Eli Degibri to note: "Taking their time, the band captivates the listener through a deliberate, fascinating and wondrous journey."

In September 2021 Hagiga's new album "Reflecting on Freedom" will be released on one of the leading jazz labels in the world, "Origin Record".

Hagiga has performed at local and international jazz festivals, and venues, including the Paris Jazz Festival, Copenhagen Jazz festival, Red Sea Jazz Festival, Jerusalem International Jazz Festival, OCT-LOFT Festival (Shenzen, China), Tel Aviv International Jazz festivalF The B-flat (Berlin), and Israeli International showcases. Over the years Hagiga has collaborated with amazingly talented and important artists such as Omri Mor, Eli Degibri, Anat Cohen, trumpeter Avishai Cohen, Ofer Ganor, Omer Klein, Amit Friedman, Amos Hoffman and many others.

Alon Farber, the band leader, studied Jazz composition at Berklee College of Music, Boston, and is a recipient of the Israeli Prime Minister's Award for Jazz Composers (2016) and the Wayne Shorter Award for Composers (1998). He is one of the founders of the "Israeli Jazz Orchestra" in which he plays lead saxophone, and also serves as associate arranger and composer

"Alon Farber Hagiga has been at the forefront of that miraculous envelope pushing curve of Israeli Jazz for some years now" (Barry Davis – jazz writer, Jerusalem Post, former Downbeat contributor. From liner notes to the album "Reflecting on Freedom").

"No other way to put it: The Alon Farber Hagiga Sextet is a fantastic find!"

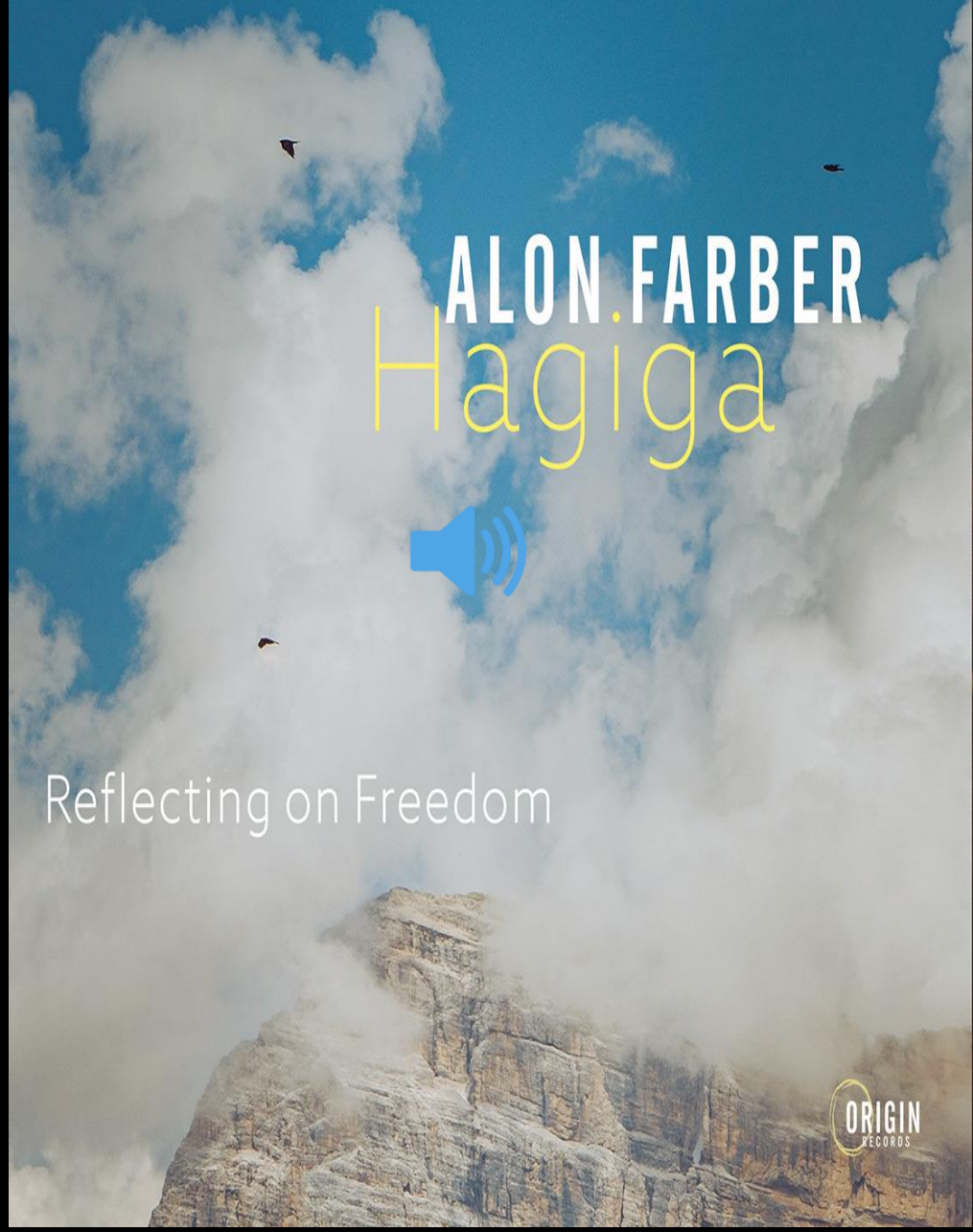
(Jay Deshponde, allaboutjazz.com)

Reflecting on Freedom

We are proud to present our new album *"Reflectiong on Freedom"*

Out of linear notes for the record by **Barry Davis**, Jazz writer, Jerusalem Post, former Downbeat contributor**:**

"The Israeli jazz scene is one of the most vibrant around. It is something of a quirk of nature that a little country in the heart of the Middle East, with more than its fair share of existential issues, should constantly churn out jazz artists and combos of such quality and with such an adventurous spirit.
Alon Farber Hagiga has been at the forefront of that miraculous envelope pushing curve for some years now. The group has chalked up almost two decades of intermittent recording and gigging, with Farber a mainstay as various personnel have come and go...
There is, indeed, an abundance of cultural references across the nine cuts, from a spread of global sectors but, at the end of the day, this is an Israeli band. Then again, that almost amounts to the same thing. The predominant specific "Israeliness" about the charts is that they are all the product of the verified cultural melting pot that is the Middle Eastern country. Twenty years, four records and hundreds of gigs down the line, Hagiga seems to be going from strength to strength, lineup shifts notwithstanding. Reflecting on Freedom - which, incidentally, feeds off saxist Eddie Harris's 1960s standard Freedom Jazz Dance – is a high octane burner fired by a dynamic big band feel...
That, in a nutshell, is very much what this album and Alon Farber Hagiga are about. There is an alluring go-with-the-flow air about this outing, which stretches into Moroccan domains, bluesy Middle Eastern spices and plenty of nods to the time-honored jazz idiom. Sounds succinctly Israeli to me.



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Media

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https://open.spotify.com/artist/1p2x6K5BGM9sLZqUNAY2oy?si=1W13zWIwSQqpts6dZpRd5Q&dl_branch=1

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNlzSToVQawSGRzh1-wGagA

Youtube Links:

https://youtu.be/kiYOsD0JzPQ

https://youtu.be/pYSkJsaOO-w

https://youtu.be/IWtQofhsa3c

Alon Farber Hagiga's Photos Gallery By Yossi Zwecker:
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"This is one of the finer groups that the Fresh Sound label has produced… let it be known that Farber and his musicians have incredible empathy and their own voice. They are NOT copycats, nor sound like anyone else" Nathan Halaway Jazzreview.com