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#### Contact info

Label  
diana@ilkmusic.com  
www.ilkmusic.com

Artist  
Søren Kjærgaard  
info@sorenkjaergaard.com  
www.sorenkjaergaard.com

Digital distribution  
The Orchard

International distribution  
DME /  
Danish Music and Entertainment  
tom@d-m-e.dk  
www.d-m-e.dk

UK sales  
Discovery Music Distribution  
www.discovery-records.com

USA sales  
Stateside Distributors  
www.statesidemusic.com

Japan sales  
Disc Union  
intldept@diskunion.co.jp

Barcode / UPC: 5706274008524

#### Credits

Recorded at The Village,  
Copenhagen, July 14-15, 2017

Produced by Søren Kjærgaard



## Søren Kjærgaard Concrescence

12" LP / digital album

Concrescence is a studio recorded solo piano album by prominent Danish pianist and composer, Søren Kjærgaard. The album is part of a twin release on ILK that also include the album *Live At Freedom Music Festival*.

On both albums Kjærgaard is engaged in how he can open a differential field of potential within the natural limitations of the solo format. Through a mix of conventional and extended instrument practice that includes a versatile use of cluster sticks, he explores the multi-layered potentials of solo piano playing as a way of creating interplay between movements, speeds, textures and dynamics. Between clouds and particles of sound. His pianistic work seeks to converge rhythmic flexibility, expressive minimalism, cantabile melodicism and an expanded use of silence.

Where *Live At Freedom Music Festival* (ILK278LP) features Kjærgaard performing lengthy improvisations, *Concrescence* is more introspective in nature. Its pieces are encaptured as small microcosmoses that unfold in a dialogue between composition and improvisation, between concept and the immediacy of the moment. Concentrated, condensed

The two albums come out of an artistic research project entitled *Multi-layeredness In Solo Performance* that was carried out at Rhythmic Music Conservatory in Copenhagen. During his research project has performed solo in Denmark, Norway, Japan and in the US.

### Bio

Søren Kjærgaard (b. 1978) is a Copenhagen-based pianist who's work as a composer and improviser encompasses a variety of settings, including solo performances, trans-Atlantic collaborations with musicians such as Andrew Cyrille, Billy Hart and Thomas Morgan, duo collaborations with the prolific Danish composer Simon Steen-Andersen and Torben Ulrich (DK) – a legendary 90 year old transdisciplinary artist and former tennis pro, and the Danish-Norwegian trio, *Living Room*, led together with Thomas Strønen (NO) and Torben Snekestad (NO).

Most of SK's activities in recent years have been exploring and interweaving different approaches to music and sound, converging elements of improvisation, composition and extended instrument practice into one dynamic field of play. This has led to international tours, exchanges, residencies, commissions and a growing discography of critically acclaimed albums.

Among other, Søren Kjærgaard has also performed with Tomasz Stanko, Paul Lovens, Fred Frith, Koichi Makigami, Tim Berne, Jim Black, Andrew D'Angelo, Jakob Bro and Kresten Osgood.