

ÖRJAN FAHLSTRÖM

Composer | Conductor | Arranger

THE SUPREME THRILL OF EXISTENCE

Suite for Jazz Orchestra



Composed: 1979

Duration: 20 min

First performance: 1979 Swedish National Radio P2 live from Estrad Theatre in Södertälje, Sweden, performed by SJR – Swedish Radio Jazz Group, conducted by Örjan Fahlström.

Audio/Media: Recorded for LP 1981 with F.I.B.B - The Fahlström International Big Band conducted by Örjan Fahlström (Frituna, FRLP-164)
Re-mastered for CD 2006 as a part of the CD **International Departures – Music by Örjan Fahlström** (Phono Suecia, PSCD 157)

About: **The Supreme Thrill Of Existence** – was composed on commission by Swedish Radio P2 (jazzradion).

This suite for jazz orchestra with its rhapsodic form has an undertone of a musical ode to the nature of the Swedish north. To quote the original text on the LP cover:

It describes the Hideaway-land, where I most of all would like to be, and where I actually sometimes spend precious time. It's a matter of respect for, and an impression of the whole complex of nature.

Palle Mikkelborg's** trumpet is the first part of that feeling, followed by **Lennart Åberg's** soprano solo and **Bobo's** piano. A cautious approach, perhaps stillness, who knows. Maybe a stillness with sudden emotional changes, where within ten minutes you have decisive storm, rain or snow surrounding you. **Sahib Shihab** plays the baritone solo, **Glenn Meyerscough** the tenor solo and **Nils Landgren** the trombone. They play in the same language, sometimes in conversation, sometimes arguing. Again the trumpet is Palle Mikkelborg's and the final caressing soprano is Lennart Åberg's. Altogether – **The Supreme Thrill OF Existence

Orchestration: 5 reeds, 4 trumpets, 3 trombones, bass trombone, piano, acoustic bass, drums