

**ROOT AREA – New album *In Pursuit Of Happiness* (LAMENTO 008)**



ROOT AREA plays Soul Jazz – “Soul” music in the truest sense. Following their *RAY Session* (LAMENTO 006), the band makes an impressive return with the album *In Pursuit Of Happiness*. The high-caliber lineup, featuring **Christoph Grab** and **Nicole Johäntgen** on saxophones, **Marcel Thomi** on the Hammond organ, and **Elmar Frey** on drums, presents nine brand-new original compositions, recorded live in a single afternoon at Hardstudio in Winterthur.

The new program continues their concept of integrating various grooves into their “language,” using them as the foundation for their original compositions and improvisations. Jazz and irresistible rhythmic energy are fused to create ROOT AREA’s unmistakable sound.

Whether bluesy boogaloo, gospel-tinged ballads, New Orleans grooves, edgy reggae, or Afrobeat – ROOT AREA combines deep musical roots with a contemporary edge. This synthesis generates phenomenal energy that transcends boundaries, creating unique, joyous moments for both the audience and the band.

With their infectious playfulness, groove, and refined arrangements for two saxophones and Hammond organ, ROOT AREA shapes a distinctive style that has gained recognition far beyond national borders. The German press describes ROOT AREA as a “celebration of blues, soul, swing, and other jazz-root ingredients.”

*In Pursuit Of Happiness* is being released, like the previous albums, on Christoph Grab’s own label, LAMENTO.