

PAPATAMUS January 2018

A NOTE TO READERS: I cover a lot of items in this column and it is only a fraction of what crosses my desk. I choose to only write about things that I find of interest, usually that is due to quality of music but not always. Mine is a small voice against media hype/*print-ola* but be assured neither friend or benefactor has influenced my judgements. My writings *are my* feelings and that which money *can't* buy. You can contact me at rdr@cadencebuilding.com. Mail received is subject to editing and may be included in the next column at my discretion. If you do not want your correspondence printed please let us know. Thanks and cheers, RDR

After spending some time with the Kolner Saxophone Mafia, **NORBERT STEIN**, in 1987, began recording as part of his Pata Music configuration and in 1993 started issuing his releases on the Pata record label. Stein's latest is **WE ARE** [Pata Records 24]. This 5/17 recording is made as Pata Messengers [Philip Zoubek-p, Joscea Oetz-b, Etienne Nillesen-drm]. The nine compositions [46:51] are all Stein originals and here he sticks to tenor sax throughout. This music has definite structures and once their presence is met the quartet pretty much goes free form with Nillesen playing with *and* counter to the other members of the group. Stein's growl-ly tenor is very strong and gives a sense of great reserve of power and ideas. Similarly Zoubek's piano acts as a counter foil full of ideas. A strong and satisfying date.

Robert D. Rusch
[edited by Kara Rusch]

