

# Lyft Trio

## Band Text:

Hiking for a full kilometer with outstretched arms – a clear goal in sight and a feeling of gravity-defying liberty help globetrotter Mario Castelberg develop bizarre ideas, including the name of his band: Lyft Trio. This was founded while guitarist Castelberg and his fellow band members Joel Banz (bass) and Janic Haller (drums) were waiting to be freed out of a stuck lift. Their music is inspired by the unlimited freedom of jazz, the atmosphere of the Americana and the song-conducive catchiness of pop music. Always in balance between dissonance and consonance, clear melodies and spherical noises, simplicity and complexity. Due to this versatility the Lyft Trio picks up its audience like a lift – if it doesn't accidentally get stuck – and elevates it into weightless and dreamlike but also lucid spheres.



Album Text:



Mario Castelberg is a globetrotter. Once a year, the guitarist selects a destination, which he proceeds to explore single-handedly. The debut album *Traveller* is the musical manifestation of inspiration collected on these journeys. Together with Joel Banz (bass) and Janic Haller (drums), Castelberg melodizes his experiences under the name *Lyft Trio*. For example, hiking for a full kilometer with outstretched arms to escape the madness of solitude, or meeting people from all walks of life in countries as diverse as Iceland and Malaysia - as a person born and bred in Appenzell. These impressions are reflected in many of the song titles and brought to life by the music of the Lyft Trio. The musical influences lead to enthralling compositions: the opener, *Glow*, functions according to the aesthetics of Nordic Jazz while simultaneously presenting a distinctly unique style of composition with its magnificent fretless bass melody. *Spring Poem*, on the other hand, captures the listener with dynamic eruptions and dramaturgical finesse: The initial spherical chiming of bells is soon replaced by eruptions reminiscent of geysers only to end in conciliatory soft rain. Or take *It's Still There*: A spherical groove, which opens up towards the second half of the song and tells its very own tale in the vein of faster Radiohead songs. Next to these influences, names like Gilad Hekselman, Brad Mehldau or Julian Lage come to mind while listening to songs which combine the unlimited freedom of jazz, the atmosphere of the Americana and the song-conducive catchiness of pop music. It is this versatility that invites listeners of *Traveller* to travel along on this pleasant musical journey devoid of complicated control mechanisms and to feel the smooth levitation of a lift.