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Bio information: **MATS/MORGAN BAND**

Title: *The Music or The Money?* (Cuneiform Rune 301/302)

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FILE UNDER: ROCK/JAZZ-ROCK

"I am floored by their ability to legitimately execute everything from light jazz to super-human staggered 16th note hell to the most violent Pantera-like machine-gun groove to overly-complex synclavier Zappa music... This band can do everything; and it's just two weird guys from Sweden." – Ink 19

"Morgan Ågren - voted the #1 'Fusion' drummer - Reader's Poll 2010" – Modern Drummer

Singled out by iconoclastic genius **Frank Zappa** while youthful prodigies and invited to join Zappa's touring band before his death, the Swedish musicians **Mats Öberg** (keyboards) and **Morgan Ågren** (drums) remain today one of the longest-running (nearly 30 years) and most musically successful collaborations in the universe of fusion and jazz/rock. Their **Mats/Morgan Band** has released eight albums and played countless festivals and concerts, and the two have also played and recorded with other bands, including appearing on a Grammy Award winning 1994 release by **Zappa's Universe**. In addition, both have successful independent careers.

While most young musical prodigies hone their chops on works by Chopin, Beethoven and other European classical composers, the Swedish prodigies **Mats Öberg** and **Morgan Ågren** honed theirs on the equally complex compositions of radical American rock musician and composer **Frank Zappa**, as well as on American jazz. Blind from birth, **Mats Öberg** displayed signs of musical prodigy before he could walk – including a proclivity for **Miles Davis**. By age three he was playing keyboards and singing, by eight he was listening to Zappa, the **Mahavishnu Orchestra**, and **Earth Wind & Fire**, and soon after he began to do public concerts. Born in 1967, fellow Swede **Morgan Ågren** began drumming at age four and received his first drum set at age five. By the time Ågren was seven, he was doing public concerts, his tastes including the **Buddy Rich Big Band**, **Louie Bellson Big Band**, **Return to Forever**, and others. The two child prodigies met and began collaborating in 1981, when a concert organizer asked the 14-year-old Morgan to accompany Mats, then aged 10, at a concert in Umea. The youngsters selected and performed a repertoire of **Zappa**, **Stevie Wonder** and **Beatles** songs, and have been playing together ever since.

Frank Zappa played a central role in Mats and Morgan's early careers, as both a musical influence and mentor. In 1984, Mats and Morgan formed **Zappesteetoot**, a Zappa cover band that toured and played on radio shows in Sweden and Norway. During his 1988 **"Broadway the Hard Way"** tour, Zappa asked Mats and Morgan to guest with his band in Stockholm and was awestruck by their performance. Zappa took them on as musical protégés, but his illness interrupted plans to include them in his touring band. Mats and Morgan played in the 1991 **Zappa's Universe** concerts and appear on the **Verve/Polygram** live CD, playing with guitarist **Steve Vai** on the Grammy winning instrumental song "SOFA". In 1993, they played with Zappa's **"Orchestra of Our Time"** at NYC's Avery Fisher Hall.

After Zappa's death in 1993, Mats and Morgan continued to play his music, working and recording with related musicians, including **Dweezil Zappa**, **Terry Bozzio**, **Mike Keneally**, **Steve Vai**, and **Dennis Walley**. Between 1994 and 1996, Mats and Morgan played in the **Frank Zappa Memorial Barbecue**, and in 2002 they played Zappa's **"200 Motels Suite"** with the **Nederlands Philharmonisch Orkest**. In 2003, they performed with the **Ed Palermo Big Band** (who are also on Cuneiform) and **Denny Walley's Zappa Corner Band** at the **Umeå Internationella Kammarmusik Festival**. Morgan played Zappa's music with the **Ensemble Imaginaire (Frank Zappa Memorial Barbecue)** and with **Lotsberg, Pajunen, Ågren & Tengstrand**. Mats & Morgan performed at the 2004 **Zappanale** festival in Bad Doberan, Germany and in September 2006 performed music by **Zappa** and **Varèse** with **Ali N. Askin's MusikFabrik**.

Beyond Zappa's sphere, the Swedes began to make a name for themselves through their own original music. Gradually, their music would move away from overt Zappa influences, yet they still incorporated into their style such Zappa hallmarks as compositional complexity, resistance to genre classification, iconoclasm and humor. To release their recordings, Morgan founded a label, **Ultimate Audio Entertainment**, which released Mats & Morgan's first six CDs. *The Music or The Money?* is a reissue of their second album, originally released in 1997 and originally released only in Sweden. This new edition of this album includes over 45' of previously unreleased material.

For more information, visit **Mats/Morgan Band** online at: www.morganagren.com & www.myspace.com/matsmorganband

What other musicians have said about Mats & Morgan:

"They played unbelievable, just unbelievable." – Frank Zappa *"Remarkable technical expertise and playing skills." – Bill Bruford*

"I'm stunned, these guys have an extraordinary amount of talent." – Steve Vai

"Absolutely unbelievable, they drove me right out of my mind, it was so good. Buy their albums." – Mike Keneally

"Morgan is quite simply one of the most interesting and exciting drummers I've ever heard. Rhythmically advanced and musical too.

A rare combination of modern and classic." – Gavin Harrison

PROMOTIONAL PHOTOS



Digital [High-Resolution] versions of these images are available for download on www.cuneiformrecords.com in the "Press" section.

What the press has said about Mats/Morgan releases:

THE MUSIC OR THE MONEY

“The double CD titled **The Music Or The Money... (...That Is The Question, 1997)** was their masterpiece, and it's still the best introduction for newcomers. The "Matt" CD features intelligent and communicative songs - If I Only Had A Clavinet, Coco, I Wanna, Spinning Around - where psychedelia, Beatles and Beach Boys go hand-in-hand with Zappa, and brilliant instrumentals such Hjortron Från Mars, where the violin and the melody make one think of an unreleased track off Hot Rats "starring Jean-Luc Ponty"; the "Morgan" CD is maybe more difficult to grasp - here electronic textures sometimes similar to Zappa's Jazz From Hell share space with oppressive climates that - thanks also to the use of oboe and bassoon - remind one of Belgian group Univers Zero.”

– Beppe Colli, *Clouds and Clocks*, www.cloudsandclocks.net/CD_reviews/matsmorgan_tffwu_E.html

TRENDS AND OTHER DISEASES:

“The duo's technical skills were really something else. ... it was on the albums featuring their own material, obviously, that the duo really showed all their complex - but highly communicative - features. ... **Their first CD, *Trends And Other Diseases* (1996), presented a fresh, colourful mix of styles, where Zappa, the Beatles, something by Keneally, classical and "northern" airs, heavy rock and so on inhabited the same place quite naturally.**”

– Beppe Colli, www.cloudsandclocks.net/CD_reviews/matsmorgan_tffwu_E.html

Cuneiform Records reissued *Trends and Other Diseases* in 2008, and is now – 2010 – reissuing *The Music or the Money*.

MATS/MORGAN BAND HEAT BEATS LIVE // TOURBOOK 1991-2007 CD+DVD CUNEIFORM 2008

“Öberg, blind from birth, is a keyboard prodigy, while Agren is regularly voted into the top three best drummers in the world. The music is **jazz-rock, echoing Zappa, but more often world/jazz-rock supremo Joe Zawinul, and his ilk. Bassist Tommy Tordsson aids the remarkable duo.** The tracks, all live, range from **heavyweight jazz-rock freak-outs in impossible-to-follow time signatures, to otherworldly Zawinul-esque divertissements. Öberg wrings some great sounds out of his synth...**it does grip the listener, especially the insane piano/harp/drums/brass trip cut “The Bösendorfer of Advokaten.” The DVD collects sixty-five clips of Agren in action, ranging from studio work to sessions to live cuts. **Excellent quality material, and an absolute must for drummers in any genre.**” – Simon Lewis & Stephen Palmer, *Terrascope*, www.terrascope.co.uk, 2008

“With a collection of eight albums already and the experience of playing at concerts and festivals alike, Mats Öberg and Morgan Agren have a life long rush of musical genius behind them and they are not stopping there...the duo definitely have something huge going for them... The CD, Heat Beats Live, is a collection of the excellence of their live performances done at Stockholm's Club Fasching in May 2005 and April 2007, and in France's Le Triton club near Paris in September 2007... **Jazz Rock must have... If you are a fan of any type of jazz music from Medeski Martin and Wood, Frank Zappa, or even trip hop artists such as Bjork or Massive Attack, you need to pick up this album for you collection. It's a decision you won't regret!**” [5 star]

– Lisa Knapp, *Lucidforge*, www.lucidforge.com

[Ranked number 3 on Loughborough Radio's Alternative playlist] – *Jazzwise*, November 2008

“If your tastes run to the more experimental side of things, this is a disc you simply must have... **highly charged experimental jazz-fusion with doses of modern classical influences.** The musicianship of this duo is first rate; it's absurdly complex at times yet on a dime will become minimalistic featuring tinkling keyboards and harmonica... it's a musical roller-coaster. You will never quite know where the music will be going next because it defies traditional convention.”

– Jerry Lucky, “My Progressive Rock World”, *JerryLucky.com*

“...this new live album...it's a wide variety...**complex fusion, full of solos, blending-in folk and all sorts of other elements, with obvious influences like: Zappa/ Mothers, Mahavishnu Orchestra, Samia Mammamanna, in fact lots of jazz-fusion and RIO** type musicians are adapted and sewn into their lively concoction... The bonus DVD credited to Morgan Agren: Tourbook 1991-2007... collecting various Mats/Morgan gig extracts along with other bands, projects, and solo work, does showcase his talent well in a wide variety of settings... he's good, and with an original style.”

– Alan Freeman, *Audion*

“**Mats/Morgan Band produces a frenetic, musical stew that always intrigues and usually ingratiates... Equipped with jaw-dropping chops,** the band sometimes lets unbridled virtuosity get the better of it... But wait – sometimes the utter wild musicianship trumps everything: One finds oneself bowing in humble acknowledgement of genius bracketing whatever reservations one might have about the downright audacity of the proceedings (“Tuvas Rumba”). Other times (“Cry of Laika”) there's such a pure folk sensibility operating, that grousing would be curmudgeonly without cause... if you're all taken by **chops-heavy world/jazz/rock/classical fusion**, it's certainly worth a listen.” – Jan Dennis, *Audiophile Audition*, www.audaud.com

“**Their music is influenced by jazz, classical, progressive rock, Magma, Frank Zappa, and jazz-fusion...** Most of the songs are very complex and are not in your standard 4/4 time...Mats uses a full range of keyboard sounds creating a very full sound. **Morgan's drumming at times reminded me of Terry Bozzio's** playing, where they play melodies and rhythm at the same time. He also changes where he accents the beats... and this gives a lot of color to his playing... The highlight of this package for me is the DVD... put together by Morgan Agren... There are over 70 video clips... videos of the Mats/ Morgan Band, Frank Zappa and Captain Beefheart tribute bands, Fredrik Thordendal (Meshuggah) and other jazz ensembles... really good close up shots of Morgan playing... **He definitely has his own style and adds a lot to the music he plays from jazz to metal. I could not recommend this DVD enough to anyone that plays drums or enjoys them... One amazing drummer!**” [4 stars]

– Christian Bernier, *Sea of Tranquility*, www.seaoftranquility.org

“The live DVD *Tourbooks*...opens with a tight shot of drummer Morgan Agren's hands...poised over a vast drum kit...When he starts, his hands fly over the set, impossibly fast but light-tempered and playful. ...**Agren is... a drummer's drummer who can flit from cool traditional jazz to proggy rock to howling Swedish metal, without dropping a stick, without batting an eye...** *Heat Beats Live* is...**distillation of the pair's technical proficiency and playful musicality**, augmented on about half the tracks by a full band. The disc starts with “The Return of Advokaten”, a prolonged, fast-paced three-way between Agren's pulsing, storming rhythms, Öberg's cool Return to Forever-ish keys, and Tommy Tordsson's frantic bass. The keyboard takes all kinds of roles here, sounding like an electric piano, an organ and, briefly, a flute. Yet it's the the duel in the rhythm section that gives the cut oomph. You quite simply can't believe that both of them can keep up with the pace and complexity...”

the most powerful cuts seem to be...the ones where Mats and Morgan go at it, just the two of them, their difficultly paced rhythms matching sometimes and intersecting at odd angles at others. You are struck first by the skill at work ... but then by the sense of play. There is a lightness, a giddiness, a trick-rider bravado to the stunts they pull, as if they themselves cannot stop grinning at what they have gotten away with... Your appreciation for *Heat Beats* will depend... on how well you tolerate fusion... but Mats and Morgan do it so skillfully that you have to set personal preferences aside... on *Trends and Other Diseases*... the addition of vocals takes the focus off their really excellent playing and puts it on the melodies. **It's much more of a pop take on what they do, a fusion not just of rock and jazz, but of R&B, funk, and diva crooning...** the skill level is undeniably high.... **If you've got a drummer in your family, pick these records up for him. He'll either thank you or give up his instrument forever."** [7 stars} – Jennifer Kelly, *PopMatters*, www.popmatters.com

"Swedish jazz/prog rock outfit **Mats Morgan Band** owe a lot to the more exploratory flirtations between jazz and rock through the 60's and 70's, especially in **John McLaughlin's Mahavishnu Orchestra**, and more significantly **Frank Zappa's** work... **The controlled insanity of Zappa comes through in *Heat Beats Live*... Mats Morgan Band are successful when they go for sustained intensity... It would be criminal to ignore just how amazing the performances on this album are. The bass work is particularly notable.** Even though it undoubtedly evokes the jazz fusion of the 80's, particularly when slap is used, bass guitarist Tommy Thordsson ultimately proves to be a strong basis for the musical material above, particularly where Morgan Agren seeks more to add color and spectacle to the band's structure... his breakneck voicings are breathtaking and of the kind of harmonically obtuse chord structures that would make Zappa proud... ignore just how alive these players are in a live format and how well the style does come off when put forth with consistency and structural order. **Above all, when on song, Mats Morgan Band is totally ridiculous fun."** – Marcus Whale, *The Silent Ballet*

"The CD/DVD set showcases the talents of Swedish drummer Morgan Agren. The live CD features Agren and keyboardist Mats Oberg playing their **unique brand of Zappa influenced jazz/rock**, while the DVD *Tourbook 1991-2007* show Agren... Both feature **great drumming from Agren** but 'Tvingle' with the funky bass of Tommy Thordsson is the favourite track" [3 stars] – Brent Keefe, *Drummer Magazine*

"**A solid fifty two minute fusion jazz workout by this Swedish group of brilliant musicians**, and a feature-length DVD of footage from throughout their career." – George Parsons, *Dream Magazine* #9

MATS/MORGAN BAND THANKS FOR FLYING WITH US CUNEIFORM 2005

"**4 stars: ...this CD of highly individual progressive jazz should have a broader appeal – it's just plain inspired.** Swedish musicians Mats Oberg and Morgan Agren are influenced by Miles Davis, Frank Zappa, the Mahavishnu Orchestra and Earth, Wind & Fire. ...The band had some listeners tell them "It feels like flying when I listen to you guys!" So with tongue firmly in cheeks the band decided to call this CD *Thanks for Flying With Us* – the joke doubly emphasized by the front and back photos...in which...the member who is shown piloting the plane in the cockpit is the one who has a white cane (not a prop). The band's whole approach upholds Zappa's philosophy of iconoclasm and humor. Drummer Morgan also reports that it took about two years to make this CD, and that he used **vintage tube amps and tube mics plus the best A-D converters to achieve their best sound. ...Other attractions of this terrific disc are the interesting guest artists brought in...** **The Mats/Morgan band is tight and precise and seem capable of playing absolutely anything with great gusto. Some jazz groups make feeble attempts to incorporate other genres such as pop, hard rock or world music into their music; the Mats/Morgan men integrate everything and make it their own. This is one of the biggest-sounding quintets I've auditioned in a while."** – John Henry, *Audiophile Audition*, www.audaud.com

"Swedish wunderkinds, Mats Oberg (keys) and Morgan Agren (drums) have been performing together since their teen years. ...all that...commitment reaps fruitful dividends here, on this polished prog-rock foray. **Along with a cute vocoder like vocal tune and a narration/parody of armed airline pilots, their knotty time signatures and flair for the dynamic generates gobs of excitement.** ...The duo is augmented by...guitarist Jimmy Agren, bassist Tommy Thordsson and others. ...there's an abundance of peppery soloing maneuvers to whet the ardent prog-rock fan's appetite. Also included are live bonus tracks where Mat[s] and Morgan perform as a duo. ...these Swedes are **terrific musicians who combine insurmountable energy with a poised sense of determination!"** – Glenn Astarita, *All About Jazz*, January 2006, www.allaboutjazz.com

"...child prodigies Mats Oberg and Morgan Agren... are one of the most distinctive acts around these days. What else would you expect from a band whose blind keyboardist player (Mats) was listening to Zappa and the Mahavishnu Orchestra by the time he was 8 and whose drummer was honing his drum skills in public performances at the tender age of 7 inspired by...Buddy Rich and Return to Forever! ... They did go on to play with Dweezil Zappa...on various projects. Now a band in their own right their 1996 debut CD 'Trends and Other Diseases' and their live 2001 CD give a real flavour and...are well worth tracking down. ...**'Thanks for Flying with Us' is their most accessible musical adventure...concentrating on shorter, cleverly constructed pieces with outstanding backing from a variety of musicians... The music is faultless** throughout but reaches a compositional peak on the pieces 'JF's Tati-Car' and 'La Baratte.' Mats' distinctive use of harmonica also appears on his solo track... they truly do 'break through the sound barriers of genre, style, time and trend' as suggested in the sleeve notes... The most obvious reference point though remains Frank Zappa- partly through the sardonic humor that permeates some of the music! ...**Highly recommended** for the initiated and also those unfamiliar with the remarkable musical universe of Mats and Morgan!" – Phil Jackson, *Acid Dragon*, November 2005

"...the new *Thanks For Flying With Us*... appears to get back to some of the compositional climates appearing on *The Music Or The Money*... **Mats Öberg's contributions are in a "classic" mode** – check ADAT Dropouts I Love You, played solo, with keyboards and a harmonica played like a "cool" saxophone; the beautiful Softma, with violin and klavichord; and check his keyboards and harmonica contributions to the complex La Baratte. **Morgan Ågren's contributions are quite...fine – listen to Thanks For Flying With Us and JF's Tati Car, where hypnotic-sounding ostinatos reminded me of Daniel Denis** from recent albums; also good are La Baratte, Wounded Bird ... A few long live bonus tracks round up the picture; they are all very good, and they succeed in presenting a different palette: Coco is nice, Live Neff and Alive In Eskede are two long, complex tracks played only by the duo... **the CD is very well-produced, and it sounds great."** – Beppe Colli, *Clouds and Clocks*, November 10, 2005, www.cloudsandclocks.net

"...*Thanks For Flying With Us* is the Mats/Morgan Band's most mature work to date; it's subtler, more varied, slightly more industrial-sounding as new approaches and angles are entertained. **Worry not – it's no less a chopfest!**

The rolling bassline of “Sinus” is enough to make your eyes water; five minutes later and a blissful awakening is awarded the M/M novice. This colorful leadoff piece is so catchy, so cool, it shouldn't have any problem getting airplay... the angular title track zaps you with adrenalized syncopations and chills you with legato detours. “JF’s Tati-Car” operates a modal (or should that be *moodal*) color wheel that spins until a new sub-sub-subgenre dubbed “mercurial funk” makes a dangerous fly-by. Mats picks up his harmonica and indulges Morgan’s brother Jimmy’s guitar for a faux-duel on “La Baratte.” Arranged throughout the stratified band pieces are duets... These cuts are not as grandiose but no less significant, divergences on differing wavelengths. ...

Twenty-five minutes of bonus material tops off this album: three more, different and live, duet pieces from two different tours...and a demo... *Thanks For Flying With Us* is one flight path the listener is bound to trace over and over again. 5 stars.”

- Elias Granillo, *Sea of Tranquility*, January 25, 2006, www.seaoftranquility.org

“...fellow jazz-brains and youth-prodigies Mats Öberg (keys) and Morgan Ågren (drums)...kept cooperating with offspring Dweezil and disciples as distinct as Bozzio and Vai,...It’s no wonder, then, that this release still carries that devil’s name written all over it... But the songpenning duo...is making **one helluva mix in here too, citing King Crimson, Jan Garbarek and a myriad others in the prog-cess. This is a fusion of jazz and prog-rock, with loads of not-so-subtle electronics, mad-gone-virtuoso drum patterns and fusion/funk sparkles.**

TFFWU reveals a progressive feast of aural sounds flying everywhere, with a heavy jazz/fusion underpinning. The diverse keyboards come across as the predominant instrument – handled mainly by Mats – with odd time-stamps and spaced-crazed melodies. ...

I’d sincerely advise this complex...release to fans of out-there experimental, progressive instrumental tendencies with few or no regard for melody or straightforward structures. **I can smell Vai’s work, Zappa’s synclavier-heavy shadow, King Crimson’s mid-late period venturings, bits of a retro-funk thing too... I’d still be sure to direct Mats/Morgan’s latest onto the more open minded, avantgarde prog/jazz enthusiasts who will probably be floored...**”

- Bruno A., *Ventrilocution*, January 2006, www.ventrilocution.net

“This one is a captivating and stirring record from beginning to end. ...this is my first encounter with this band... At first hearing I was struck by the obvious 70s sound of this keyboard dominated band. It woke up old memories of Todd Rundgren’s *Initiation*... The album sounds almost like an homage to this period. But this does not mean that we are dwelling in a retro atmosphere here. All fusion, progressive and other influences inspired them to a very coherent and massive whole of full-grown music... it is impossible not to be impressed by these virtuosic speed devils. Happily they do not lose themselves into meaningless technical exercises, as their music remains very open and communicative.”

- Frans de Waard, *Tokafi*, www.tokafi.com

“...the music contains a wide variety of references... Bruford, Hatfield And The North, Allan Holdsworth, Jaga Jazzist, National Health and at certain times even Utopia can be heard.

... Thanks For Flying With Us is by far this collective’s most mature product up to date. The album is both dynamic and refined, lively but modest and chequered but homogeneous... The dazzling rhythms, the complex shifts and the odd time signatures ceaselessly attract the listener’s attention. **...I...had a great time with this energetic disc full of demonstrations of metric musical mastership...**”

- Frans Schmidt, *Prog Wereld*, www.progwereld.com

“... To refer to these Swedish musicians as virtuosos is an understatement. While still teenagers, they played as guests with Frank Zappa...performed as part of the Zappa’s Universe band in 1993. ... *Thanks For flying With Us* is their seventh album... **Like Zappa, their music can range from detailed and complex to simple and melodic.** ... There are lots of fast keyboard riffs on clav, parallel harmony lines, and changing meters. A few of the tracks have *Wardencllyffe Tower*-era Allan Holdsworth-sounding soling. Tunes like “ADAT Dropsout I Love You” and “Softma” contrast these these complex pieces and showcase a slower melodic side of the band. ...”Please Remain Seated” has a standout drum solo... The live tracks...allow Mats and Morgan to stretch out in several directions. **These guys can definitely play.**”

- Mike Grimes, “Roundtable Review”, *Exposé*, Issue no. 33, May 2006

“While the opening track has the influence of Frank Zappa ...(that’s not a criticism, these guys do an outstanding job of tracking FZ’s stylistic tendencies), things get even more varied and adventurous as this disc progresses. ... **Most of the vocals on the disc are wordless extensions of the overall instrumental approach. The drums and bass provide angular and jagged, yet solid grooves that set up the framework for all the multilayered keyboard interplay** that gives these guys—and this disc— a unique sound. ...plenty of...ultra-intense moments scattered across the disc; complementing those, several more moody and softer melodic pieces...including one Mats solo...plus some cuts that...hard funk in a sort-of Herbie Hancock style. ... Another great one from M/M.”

- Peter Thelen, “Roundtable Review”, *Exposé*, Issue no. 33, May 2006

“Mats/Morgan have been one of Sweden’s best kept prog secrets for over 20 years. ... **For three musicians (including guitarist Jimmy Ågren) whom have played together most of their lives they truly sound telepathic. The title track says it all: relentless synchronized playing between guitars, keys and drums but smoothly executed.** ...the band is heavily steeped in complex charts and whirlwind arrangements that are simultaneously spectacular and intricate. “Not us” is pure Frank smiling down from beyond... **Öberg is a fine keyboardist – his selection of synth tones is unique, with a heavy digital gear sound, but less metallic. His symphonic approach reminds me of Chick Corea’s RTF work... “Softma” rekindles themes that suggest Kit Watkins playing with the Mahavishnu Orchestra. ... Overall I can’t convey enough how impressive this band is...**”

- Jeff Melton, “Roundtable Review”, *Exposé*, Issue no. 33, May 2006

“...in the universe [of] Mats Öberg and Morgan Ågren...enough mad funky sounds to be found and their signature sense of groove... It’s just a bit more woven into the tapestry...

The now quintet called in a few guests for some extra flavour. A Turkish zurna pops up...and a choir makes a few appearances, it diversifies their unique blend of jazz, rock and pop even more and the end result is a pleasant listening experience. ...4/5 stars.”

- Martijn Busink, *Musique Machine*, www.musiquemachine.com

“...“Thanks For Flying With Us”...shows **a mature band with remarkable skills.** No wonder M&M are praised by famous musicians such as Bill Bruford and Steve Vai. The influences stretch from *The Beatles* and American jazz to *Univers Zero* and *King Crimson*.

M&M juggle with rhythms, grooves and beats in an inimitable fashion. Their highly original music testifies of a compositional complexity... The jazz oriented prog fan who fancies a sonic adventure should...give this album a try.”

- Christoph Lintermans, *Prog-Nose*, October 23, 2005, www.prog-nose.org

“Charting the Jazz message... STUDENT: Loughborough Radio’s Alternative Alternative playlist: [#]1 Mats Morgan Band ‘Thanks For Flying With Us’ *Cuneiform Records*”

- *Jazzwise*, February 2006