SJB SELECTION

REVIEW · JAZZ

Amorandom | Aki Rissanen

The title alone seems to hold forces that shouldn’t entirely belong together: love and chance, design and the unexpected, the will to build a form and the curiosity to see what happens when that form is left free to breathe.

SJB SELECTION · NOVEMBER 2026

The title alone seems to hold forces that shouldn’t entirely belong together: love and chance, design and the unexpected, the will to build a form and the curiosity to see what happens when that form is left free to breathe.

Aki Rissanen’s piano lives inside this tension.

There is rigour.

But not rigidity.

There is structure.

But not imprisonment.

Bass and drums work around the piano like accomplices, constantly opening small detours in which the composition can lose its profile for an instant and find another.

It’s a **free discipline**.

The sound has a brilliant, almost glassy coolness, while the rhythm section keeps moving beneath the surface.

Like water in a canal that knows its intended direction but every now and then decides to overflow the bank.

“Amorandom” thus becomes a statement about contemporary jazz: knowing many languages doesn’t force you to choose just one, as long as identity isn’t replaced by accumulation.

> ***“Amorandom” doesn’t resolve the tension between structure and chance. It does something musically more fertile: it turns that tension into its natural habitat.***

LISTEN

Amorandom — Aki Rissanen — is in our playlist Midnight Piano & Blue Notes.

Aki Rissanen. Updated every Friday. Selected by ear.

LISTEN FIRST. SELECT SECOND.