SJB SELECTION

REVIEW · JAZZ

The Sea | Ketil Bjørnstad

Ketil Bjørnstad’s sea is not a backdrop against which to place the music, but the very space in which piano, cello, guitar and drums learn how thin the border between movement and stillness can become.

SJB SELECTION · NOVEMBER 2026

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The sounds emerge.

They stay for a moment.

Then they withdraw.

But even when they seem to disappear, they leave something behind.

A resonance.

A trace.

A distance.

It’s a **moving stillness**.

Piano and cello seem to have a blue temperature. Terje Rypdal’s guitar opens depths; Jon Christensen’s drums leave small wave edges instead of imposing a grid.

The music moves like the sea seen from very far away.

At first glance it seems almost still.

Then you keep looking.

And you begin to see currents, ripples and shifts of light.

The space between two notes stops being empty.

It becomes matter.

> ***In “The Sea”, silence doesn’t interrupt the music. It is simply another form of water: invisible for a moment, but still part of the same movement.***

LISTEN

The Sea — Ketil Bjørnstad — is in our playlist Midnight Piano & Blue Notes.

Ketil Bjørnstad. Updated every Friday. Selected by ear.

LISTEN FIRST. SELECT SECOND.