



"One of the best bass players I've played with during my whole 60 year old career" - Junior Mance, pianist NYC

- **"Hans Backenroth is maybe the best bass player Sweden has ever developed"** - Arne Domnérus, altosax and clarinet, Swedish jazz legend

Hans Backenroth (born in Karlstad 1966) began to play classical guitar when he was 8 years old and 3 years later he started to play electric bass. In 1985 he took up double bass, inspired by bassists Paul Chambers, Ray Brown, Scott LaFaro and Niels-Henning Ørsted-Pedersen.

Hans moved to Stockholm in 1986 for studies at Birkagården Music college, followed by 3 more years in the jazz department of the Royal College Of Music, Stockholm where he graduated in 1990.

In 1991 Hans Backenroth got the offer to participate in a 4 week tour of the USA and Canada together with the swedish clarinet virtuoso Putte Wickman and his quartet (as a replacement for the great bass player Red Mitchell). On that tour Hans also began to play with the legendary Swedish alto saxophonist/clarinetist Arne Domnérus – a relationship that lasted for 16 years!

Since the mid nineties Hans has been a first call bass player in Sweden/Scandinavia and has played with almost all the Swedish jazz legends & artists like:

Kjell Öhman, Arne Domnérus, Bernt Rosengren, Bengt Hallberg, Nisse Sandström, Putte Wickman, Rune Gustafsson, Alice Babs, Jan Lundgren, Esbjörn Svensson, Monica Zetterlund, Malena Ernman, Olle Adolfsson, Sven-Bertil Taube, Helen Sjöholm, Nils Landgren, Rolf Ericson, Red Mitchell's Communication, Swedish Radiojazzgroup, Anne Sofie von Otter, Anders Bergcrantz, Lars Jansson, Peter Gullin, Viktoria Tolstoy ...

Hans has been the bassist of choice for international players such as:

Toots Thielemans, Kenny Barron, Roger Kellaway, James Moody, Clark Terry, Harry "Sweets" Edison, Buddy DeFranco, Harry Allen, Ernie Watts, Lorne Lofsky, Jeff Hamilton, Jeremy Pelt, Jimmy Greene, Junior Mance, Eddie Daniels, Scott Hamilton, Houston Person, Doug Raney, Larry Willis, Jesper Thilo, Bobby Shew, Butch Miles, Bob Wilber, Maria Schneider, Ed Thigpen, Danny Gottlieb, Bobby Durham, Cæcilie Norby, Byron Stripling, Jacob Fischer, Claire Martin, Martin Drew, Karin Krog, Georgie Fame, Horace Parlan, Eddie Harris, Frank Vignola, Guy Barker, Valery Ponomarev, Deborah Brown, Ken Peplowski, Richard Boone, Eddie Harris, Vladimir

Shafranov, Rebecca Kilgore, Norma Winstone, Joe Harris, Warren Vaché, Jim Snidero, Bernard Purdie, Dan Barret, Antti Sarpila, Stéphane Belmondo a.o.

Hans is considered by both musicians and critics to be one of the best bassists in Europe.

- Hans has participated in around 150 CDs and in 2008 he made his first recording under his own name, "Bassic Instinct" (pb7). The recording consisted of different settings – quartet (with Bernt Rosengren, Jacob Fischer and Roger Johansen), duos (with Georg Riedel and Kjell Öhman) and solo bass. The CD got excellent reviews in the jazz press in Sweden and Scandinavia.
- has toured in the USA, Canada, Japan, Scandinavia, France, England, Iceland, Belgium, Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Netherlands, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia and has played at legendary venues like Carnegie Hall/New York, Sweet Basil/New York, Ronnie Scotts/London, Blue Note/Nagoya in Japan and Jazzhus Montmartre in Copenhagen/Denmark.

Hans is a very popular and often hired teacher and has given masterclasses all over Scandinavia. Hans has taught double bass & electric bass at The Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm (1994-98) and since 2005 he has taught bass & ensemble at the Music High School in Piteå.

Awards:

- Gold Record Award for Rebecka Törnqvist CD "A Night Like This" (EMI), 1993
- Jazz Record of the Year 1999 for Arne Domnérus/Bernt Rosengren "Face To Face" (Dragon)
- Jazz Record of the Year 2009 Bernt Rosengren Q "I'm Flying" (pb7)
- Nalen's Friends award "Topsy's Tusenkrona" in 2000
- Wermländska Sällskapet's "Culture celebrity of the year" award in 2016

Hans was also nominated as the "Musician of the Year" in both 2015 & 2016 at P2 Jazz/Swedish National Radio.

Quotes from musicians and newspapers etc.

” One of the best bassplayers I’ve played with during my whole career”

- **Junior Mance, pianist with Lester Young, Cannonball Adderley, Dinah Washington ...**

” Maybe the best bass player that Sweden has developed – ever!”

- **Arne Domnérus, Swedish jazzlegend Altsaxofon & klarinett**

”Hans has an exceptionally good timing, which suits my taste just perfect. Also he is a good soloist without limits thanks to his excellent technique. He is also a great person and friend!”

- **Kjell Öhman, piano, B3 Hammond, arranger, composer, producer**
- **...Backenroth participates in Putte Wickman Q which the Swedish Culture Council sends to the USA. One of his qualifications is that he goes on this tour instead of world class bass player Red Mitchell ...**
- **...Backenroth is one of Sweden’s most sought after bassists and you can easily understand why. He’s got everything that one needs - open ears, firm swing and an extraordinary technique! ...**
- **...Backenroth has made himself a big name in the jazz world – he is compared to the best Danish bassplayers. And a better judgement is not possible to get**
- **.... Hans Backenroth is today one of Sweden’s best bassists... Backenroth has a wonderful sound, and his solos are full of fantasy and humour. Maybe he was the ”evening’s special event”? ...**
- **...The dream of any musician must be to play with Backenroth. You have to search a lot for his way of swing and harmonic feeling. His bass lines alone are worth buying this CD for...**
- **...Backenroth was a joy to hear – bass playing in the class of Ray Brown.**
- **Backenroth is a top player with a great mix of Ray Brown and the ”Danish bass school” ...**
- **...Backenroth is the youngest member of the group, but the biggest name. He has played with everybody – or everybody wants to play with him....**
- **...On the bass was an young phenomenon named Hans Backenroth. He had a magnificent drive with a mature and musical feeling.**