

Thomas Champagne Random House

Sweet day



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Ashley Kahn's discussion of John Coltrane's *Impulse!* label is aptly titled 'The House That Trane Built'.

Now, saxophonist **Thomas Champagne** is building his own house – **Random House** – and is moving in together with **Guillaume Vierset** (guitar), **Ruben Lamon** (bass) and **Alain Deval** (drums). And while the four of them are currently busy with reconstruction and renovation works, the first blueprint of the final design is now ready. And its name is '**Sweet Day**'. Listen closely and you'll hear the influence of other great exemplars such as **Lee Konitz** and **Wayne Shorter**. But also a vision that goes beyond that of a traditional design.

With clever nods to contemporary architects of the New York school such as **Ralph Alessi**, **Kurt Rosenwinkel** and **Nasheet Waits**, the four attempt to erect a more classical structure with modernist leanings and a few colourful yet unexpected twists.

Works are still under construction. And only time will tell in which direction things will go. As with **Chris Ware**'s graphic novel '**Building Stories**', only the building blocks are present and every combination leads to a different outcome. '**Sweet Day**' shares the same characteristics. Depending on your mood, where you listen and with whom, you'll discover new elements and new possibilities every time you play it.

**Random House** has the potential to achieve the same notoriety as other famous addresses such as '461 Ocean Boulevard', 'Penny Lane', the corner of Hollywood & Vine, '52nd Street' and Avenue C, as once frequented by **Count Basie**.

[www.thomaschampagne.be](http://www.thomaschampagne.be)

Thomas Champagne - alto sax  
Guillaume Vierset - guitar  
Ruben Lamon - double bass  
Alain Deval - drums

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