

# ARIADNE

**lars-erik norrström trio**

Lars-Erik Norrström, piano, keyb  
Terje Sundby, dr, perc  
Owe Almgren, electric bass



LJCD 5250

All compositions and arrangements by Lars-Erik Norrström, except #6, "Ariadne", a free improvisation by the trio.

*[the myth of Ariadne and Theseus (from Wikipedia):*

*King Minos of Crete had waged war with the Athenians and was successful. He then demanded that, at nine-year intervals, seven Athenian boys and seven Athenian girls were to be sent to Crete to be devoured by the Minotaur, a half-man, half-bull monster that lived in the Labyrinth created by Daedalus. On the third occasion, Theseus volunteered to slay the monster. He took the place of one of the youths and set off with a black sail, promising to his father, Aegeus, that if successful he would return with a white sail. Like the others, Theseus was stripped of his weapons when they sailed. On his arrival in Crete, King Minos' daughter Ariadne, out of love for Theseus, gave him a ball of string so he could find his way out. That night, Ariadne escorted Theseus to the Labyrinth, and Theseus promised that if he returned from the Labyrinth he would take Ariadne with him. As soon as Theseus entered the Labyrinth, he tied one end of the ball of string to the door post and brandished his sword which he had kept hidden from the guards inside his tunic. Theseus followed Daedalus' instructions given to Ariadne; go forwards, always down and never left or right. Theseus came to the heart of the Labyrinth and also upon the sleeping Minotaur. The beast awoke and a tremendous fight then occurred. Theseus overpowered the Minotaur with his strength and used his sword to stab the beast in the throat. After decapitating the beast, Theseus used the string to escape the Labyrinth and managed to escape with all of the young Athenians and Ariadne - and her little sister Phaidra too. On the return journey Theseus abandoned Ariadne on the island of Naxos. In other versions of the story, the god Dionysus appeared to Theseus and told him that he had already chosen Ariadne for his bride, and to abandon her on Naxos, a favorite island. Ariadne then cursed Theseus to forget to change the black sail to white. Seeing a black sail, Theseus' father Aegeus committed suicide by throwing himself into the sea (hence named Aegean). Theseus and the other Athenian youths returned safely. Theseus returned safely back as a king of heroes.]*

Some of the titles of "Ariadne" has a loose connection to the myth of Ariadne and Theseus [<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theseus>], such as the title song "Ariadne", "Loneliness," "Romance", "C #", "December".

The music is a symbiosis of Norrström's compositions and the free improvisations by the trio, rolled out from a skein with many elements: Swedish folk music, free improvised electric jazz, European art music, with the whole jazz history as an important basis. The trio has previously released four critically acclaimed albums on LJ-Records. "Ariadne" is the fifth CD produced by the trio, and the music in this as well as in the previous albums is marked by an intense, energetic and dynamic ensemble playing with a strong sense of the nuances and great responsiveness to rapidly changing musical ideas.

Recorded by Åke Linton, August 17th 2009, at Studio Bohus, Kungälv, Sweden.

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Further information, reviews, links, etc, to the trio and the musicians can be found at

[www.gac.se/trion](http://www.gac.se/trion)

[www.gac.se/norrstroem](http://www.gac.se/norrstroem)

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