

Street Date: September 21, 2010



cnmpro.com

Garrison Fewell's Variable Density Sound Orchestra

Sound Particle 47



Creative Nation Music CNM016
UPC: 7 00261 29949 5

TRACKS

01. Terra Firma, Terra Incognita (Hofbauer) 7:45
02. Variable Density #1 (Succi/Swell/Matsuki) 2:18
03. Fanfare For Wisdom (Fewell) 6:29
04. Requiem for a Consequence (Fewell) 9:45
05. Afro Danish Form 6 (Tchicai) 2:27
06. Betty's Bounce (Fewell) 9:08
07. Conspiring in Your Favor (Campbell/Swell) 1:50
08. Sound Particle 47 (Fewell) 6:41
09. Variable Density #2 (Succi/Campbell/Swell) 1:48
10. Long Distance Unity (Tchicai/Fewell) 10:19

All compositions published by Ninth World Music (BMI) except tracks 1 (Spice-E Music, BMI), 5 (Koda) and 10 (Ninth World Music/Koda)

Recorded 2/1/09 at Wellspring Studio (Acton, MA)

DESCRIPTION

Sound Particle 47 is the second release from veteran Boston-based guitarist/composer Garrison Fewell's Variable Density Sound Orchestra. This three-year-old working ensemble features a flexible cast of improvisers from different locales, which on this release includes Italy's Achille Succi, New Yorkers Roy Campbell, Jr., Dmitry Ishenko and Steve Swell, and Boston jazz scene mainstays Eric Hofbauer, Miki Matsuki, Kelly Roberge and John Voigt.

Together they explore a variety of textures and musical interactions, carefully balancing pre-composed material with individual solos and segments of collective improvisation by subsets of the group. For this release, which follows the group's self-titled 2009 debut, Fewell expanded both the line-up and the repertoire, adding new compositions by the other musicians, and frequent collaborator John Tchicai, to the mix as well as his own.

Time Out New York describes the group as "a heavyweight avant-jazz collective" and *JazzTimes'* Michael J. West writes, "It demonstrates how even free improvisation depends on musicians listening closely to each other...the real backbone comes from developing and responding to each other's spontaneous ideas. The products of that chemistry are gorgeous."

MUSICIANS

Garrison Fewell, guitar and percussion
Roy Campbell, Jr., trumpet, flugelhorn and percussion
Steve Swell, trombone and percussion
Achille Succi, alto saxophone and bass clarinet
Kelly Roberge, tenor saxophone
Eric Hofbauer, guitar and percussion
John Voigt, bass
Dmitry Ishenko, bass
Miki Matsuki, drums

DISTRIBUTION SOURCES AND MAJOR SALES POINTS

Physical distribution by City Hall Records

Digital distribution by IODA

Direct sales from cnmpro.com



improvisedCOMMUNICATIONS
Customized Promotion For Creative Improvised Music

Scott Menhinick, press and radio promotion
(617) 489-6561 / scott@improvisedcommunications.com
www.improvisedcommunications.com

Garrison Fewell's Variable Density Sound Orchestra

Sound Particle 47

Rossetti©Phocus



ABOUT GARRISON FEWELL

"The guitarist formerly known as one of Boston's most eloquent inside players has become one of its leading experimenters," explains the *Boston Phoenix's* Jon Garelick, who included *Variable Density Sound Orchestra* on his best of 2009 list. Fewell, a professor at the Berklee College of Music since 1977, has toured the globe for more than 30 years as one of the jazz world's premier performer/educators. But, for much of the past decade, he's left his mainstream jazz roots behind to collaborate with such renowned avant-garde musicians as Khan Jamal, Charlie Kohlhase and John Tchicai, and more fully explore such longstanding influences as spirituality, native cultures from around the world and the musical legacies of Albert Ayler, Anthony Braxton and Sun Ra.

"When you play music," he explains, "you enter into a universe where you communicate through your perception of sound. It's like a parallel universe, except we haven't gone anywhere physically and yet we're not where we were before. And, in this parallel world, people can perceive things together at the same time, without any prior intention or discussion or planning. You relinquish your attachment to your self and can recognize other. Your own ego or sense of self is no longer controlling the event. The events are taking place and you are part of them in the moment. It's an amazing experience."

Learn more at <http://www.myspace.com/garrisonfewell>

ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS

- ◆ Critics called the band's first release, *Variable Density Sound Orchestra* (CNM 014), "eloquent rather than indulgent" (Jon Garelick, *Jazziz*), "solid, approachable and at the same time richly complex" (Phillip McNally, *Cadence*) and "as intriguing a project as has been available on the contemporary jazz scene...chock full of inventive musicianship, truly new concepts, and fresh approaches that pay big dividends" (Michael G. Nastos, AllMusic.com).
- ◆ "When I originally assembled the band," Fewell recalls, "I was hearing a sound in my head and chose musicians I thought could create that sound. I knew that this time I wanted an expanded group. I was hearing higher intervals; I was hearing more horns and a more expansive sound palette, and more interactions. I had to find the right colors to add to Roy Campbell's trumpet and Achille Succi's alto sax. I also have definite ideas about the rhythmic concept of the group—I want free improvisation, but I also want it to groove."
- ◆ *Sound Particle 47* is Fewell's 11th recording as a leader/co-leader since 1993 and his third consecutive release on Boston's Creative Nation Music. In addition to his two recordings with the Variable Density Sound Orchestra, the label also released 2008's *The Lady of Khartoum* (CNM010) featuring his working duo with fellow guitarist, and VDSO member, Eric Hofbauer, which juxtaposes ancient traditions with the language and techniques of contemporary improvisation.



Bob Patton



improvisedCOMMUNICATIONS

Customized Promotion For Creative Improvised Music

Scott Menhinick, press and radio promotion
(617) 489-6561 / scott@improvisedcommunications.com
www.improvisedcommunications.com