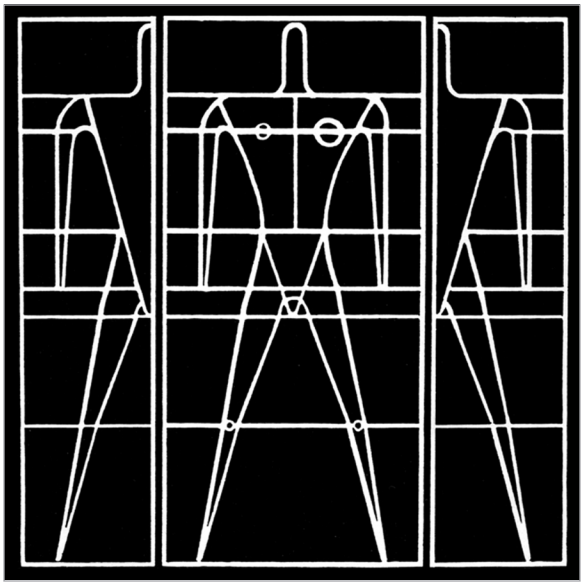
Street Date: February 17th, 2009

Garrison Fewell
Variable Density Sound Orchestra

www.cnmpro.com



Creative Nation Music CNM 014
UPC: 7 00261 25136 3

Tracks

01. Spectronomous (4:05)
02. Olorun Song (4:04)
03. Ayleristic (7:21)
04. Fragment Alignment (5:35)
05. The Red Pyramid (7:22)
06. Venus (17:25)
07. Descent From Orbit (3:25)
08. Avant Aria (3:06)
09. Calculations At Yaxchilàn (8:28)
10. Namthini's Shadow (11:26)

Tracks 1-9 by Garrison Fewell
(Ninth World Music, BMI)

Track 10 by Laurence "Butch" Morris
(Advance Systems Pub. Co., BMI)

Recorded January 27th, 2008
at Wellspring Sound in Acton, MA

Description

Variable Density Sound Orchestra is the debut of guitarist/composer Garrison Fewell's new working ensemble of the same name, and one of two new releases kicking off Creative Nation Music's 5th anniversary year. As the band's name implies, its original music, composed and conceived by Fewell, explores a wide range of textures and musical interactions. "The goal," he explains, "is to create balance, not allowing individual soloists, collective instant composing or pre-composed material to dominate for too long."

"Garrison Fewell has never stopped moving forward on his musical journey from accomplished post-bop guitarist to free-jazz explorer," writes music journalist Ed Hazell in the liner notes. "Here, on his most fully realized and personal recording in the free jazz idiom to date, you can still hear the thoughtfulness, tenderness, and intimacy; careful listening; and the rigorous construction of line and feel for melody that have marked all his albums. The Variable Density Sound Orchestra is a group well suited to realizing Garrison's concepts and compositions."

Musicians

Garrison Fewell: guitars and percussion

Roy Campbell: trumpet, flugelhorn, flute and percussion

Achille Succi: bass clarinet and alto saxophone

Eric Hofbauer: guitars and percussion

Jon Voight: bass

Miki Matsuki: drums

Alex Fewell: percussion (tracks 6 and 9)

Distribution sources

Physical distribution by City Hall Records

Digital distribution by IODA

Direct sales from cnmpro.com

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Printed on 100% recycled paper

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About Garrison Fewell

Garrison Fewell's distinguished career as a performer and educator spans more than 30 years. He has toured all around the world, including Africa, Canada, the Carribbean, Europe, South America and the United States. His diverse work as a leader/co-leader includes groups featuring such prominent musicians as Cameron Brown, George Cables, Billy Hart, Fred Hersch, Khan Jamal, Charlie Kohlhase, Cecil McBee, John Tchicai and Matt Wilson among many others. Also an internationally respected jazz educator, Fewell has been a Professor at Boston's Berklee College of Music since 1977, given clinics at more than 40 European conservatories, written lessons for various guitar magazines and authored three jazz textbooks, including his latest, *Jazz Improvisation For Guitar: A Melodic Approach* (Berklee Press).

Learn more at http://garrisonfewell.com

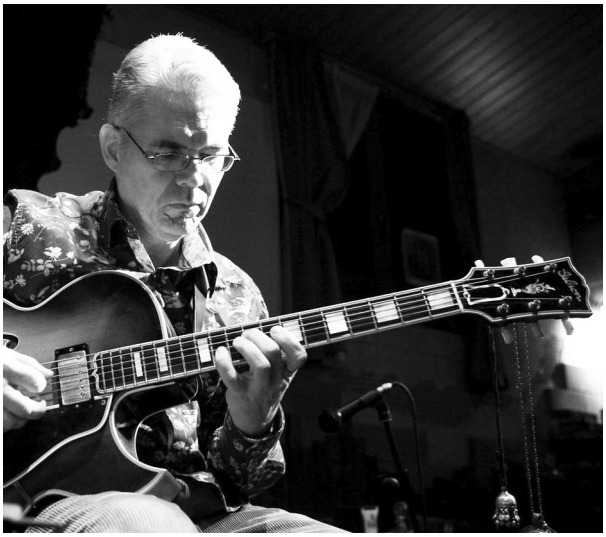

Photo by Rossetti©Phocus

Additional Talking Points

+ *Variable Density Sound Orchestra* is Fewell's first recording leading his own band since 2003's *Red Door Number 11* on Italy's Splasc(h) Records. He has since appeared as a co-leader on a number of recent releases, including *Big Chief Dreaming* (Soul Note) with John Tchicai and *Good Night Sounds* (Boxholder) with Tchicai and Charlie Kohlhase.
+ Critics called Fewell's first recording for Creative Nation Music, 2008's *The Lady of Khartoum* (CNM 010) with fellow guitarist Eric Hofbauer, "richly rewarding" (John Sharpe, AllAboutJazz.com), "deft and inventive" (Brian Marley, *The Wire*) and "a vibrant, imaginative, and—wait for it—fun record" (Jason Bivins, *Cadence*).
+ This is the first collaboration between Fewell and eminent New York trumpeter/composer, Roy Campbell. The other musicians have worked together as part of the Boston jazz scene, except for his son Alex, who makes his recorded debut here, and Italian multi-instrumentalist Achille Succi, a frequent Fewell collaborator, who made a special trip to America for this session.
+ Fewell actively shaped the music heard on *Variable Density Sound Orchestra* with the other musicians. The 10 tracks, which range from completely improvised to original compositions with a stronger framework for individual expression, take their inspiration from longstanding interests such as ancient cultures, spirituality, and the music of Albert Ayler, Anthony Braxton and Sun Ra.
+ On the retail version of this CD, each cover features an individually hand-inked print of "Garrison," an original painting by Italian artist Alfio Domenghini.

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