



## TRIO 3 + JASON MORAN

### REFRACTION – BREAKIN' GLASS

**Olive Lake** Alto Saxophone

**Reggie Workman** Bass

**Andrew Cyrille** Drums

**Jason Moran** Piano

Recorded July 24, 25, 2012 at Brookling Recording Studio, Brooklyn, NY, by Andy Taub. Mixed at Brookling Recording Studio. Mastered at Dave McNair Mastering, Monclair, NJ, February 2013. Liner notes: Alexandre Pierrepont. Photos: John Rogers. Cover art: Oliver Lake. Graphic design: Jonas Schoder. Produced by Intakt Records, Patrik Landolt.

**Intakt CD 217** EAN\_7640120192174

Three 'heavy weights' of American jazz Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman and Andrew Cyrille make up the band Trio 3. For their 5th album on Intakt Records they have added pianist Jason Moran to the line-up. The 38 year old 'rising star' on the current scene is after Irène Schweizer and Geri Allen the third guest piano player cooperating with Trio 3. In the summer of 2012 Lake, Workman, Cyrille invited Jason Moran for a week long residency in New York's Jazzclub 'Birdland', before they recorded the CD "Refraction – Breakin' Glass" in Brooklyn Recording Studio. The recording leads straight into the centre of what is known as 'Great Black Music' and celebrates the enormous diversity which is jazz today. Jason Moran has contributed a few compositions and shines next to these 3 giants of modern jazz as an expressive and technically highly skilled and intelligent pianist, who is carrying the flame of jazz into the 21st century.

**By Alexandre Pierrepont**

«The Change is the Exchange»

At the (new) beginning, there were two words. Reach and Cross.

Reach. As a trio since 1986, Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman and Andrew Cyrille are aware they are a collective to such an extent, they cultivate such a *common good*, that the three men pretend to hide behind the false neutrality of an explicit, much too explicit, obvious, much too obvious band name. Trio 3. "a perfect model of its kind", a "model of balance and coherence". The name immediately points out the number they are, but also points to *the power of three*. Because in the resurgence of this 3-men trio, is in question the idea that the saxophonist, the bassist and the drummer are multipliers for each other, through all sorts of means, and operations: they can alternatively be, in accordance with the circumstances and the needs of the music which exceeds men, the music which is the exact measure of their excessiveness, in the mediation, in the juxtaposition, in the superposition, in the intrusion, in the contradiction, in the ingression – forces of friction, forces. And each can indulge in many examinations, as creative music offers to the listener multiple possible paths, to ensure one or another mode of action is in effect. Whatever happens, the marvel is that the result of the operations performed by Oliver Lake multiplied by Reggie Workman, Reggie Workman multiplied by Andrew Cyrille, Andrew Cyrille multiplied by Oliver Lake, and reciprocally, ceaselessly changes. Trio 3 is a multiplication table through which Lake, Workman and Cyrille measure and reach, use all means at their disposition to reach just *the right amount of excessiveness*. Is it really surprising so many forms coexist within their music since one or the other has played with Mary Lou Williams and Wadada Leo Smith, with Art Blakey and Cecil Taylor, with John Coltrane and Jeanne Lee, since one or the other is well-versed in chamber music, music from the Orient, reggae or calypso? Is it so surprising since, even without these "outside" influences and affluences, who are now and forever integrated to everything they do, *if need be*, Lake, Workman and Cyrille reformulate Duke Ellington's philosophy of infinity: "To me, then, jazz means simply freedom of musical speech! And it is precisely because of this freedom that so many varied forms of jazz exist. The important thing to remember, however, is that not one of these forms represents jazz by itself. Jazz means simply the freedom to have many forms."?

Thus, Trio 3 is a core or a nucleus, though an unstable one, telling stories that narrate a thousand and one stories about themselves, especially those of creative music of these three times four or five last decades. Embedded in the group's repertoire are Eric Dolphy, Mal Waldron, John Carter, Bobby Bradford, Curtis Clark, Leroy Jenkins, Adegoke Steve Colson (and numerous compositions created at other times, in other contexts, by each member of the trio). A core that existed elsewhere in other ways, in Reggie Workman Ensemble (with Marilyn Crispell) or in Andrew Cyrille Quintet (with Colson and Hannibal Marvin Peterson). A core conceived without a sanctioned pianist,

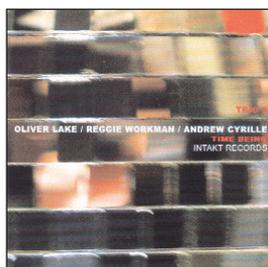


which allows them, if need be, for a *Summit Conference* or another, to join forces (forces of friction, gravitational forces) with desired or desirable pianists, free electrons, who are able to modify the core's structure and properties, as Andrew Hill, Irène Schweizer or Geri Allen have done in the past. They did not have to fill a vacant space, but rather change things up a bit in a group of men who already spend their time mutating, taking multiple shapes and forms. Such as Jason Moran, with this 8th album of Trio 3: "I was aware of the piano history in a sense, but not consciously. And I was honored to be invited in because I knew I had the freedom to explore the music as I sought it fit. The flexibility of Reggie and Andrew combined with the „bite“ of Oliver, a good combination. Their gestures are the tectonic shifts that make the landscape of this music shake."

Cross. Whether by inviting Sam Rivers in the past to join his own trio Bandwagon or by recently rallying Anthony Braxton's Diamond Curtain Wall Quartet, Jason Moran is used to passing through the other's prism, to crossing over. Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman and Andrew Cyrille's trio or prism is a "model of balance and coherence", because it refracts symmetries and bends skewness, altogether and separately – because it *pushes beyond the limit*. It doesn't try to bring order as if occasional disorder doesn't have its own reasons, or to introduce disorder as if occasional order doesn't have its own insanity, at times. Oliver Lake's saxophone bursts dash, slippery, lashing, from stridulations to buzzing. The bass's rousing depth launches juggling act upon juggling act of possible pivots. The drums' weight and excessiveness shuck, seed by seed, the rhythm's exact tempo, sometimes mincing it finely. In comes the pianist, that pianist. If Irène Schweizer was with Trio 3 a pianist of wanderings to be coordinated, and Geri Allen a pianist of paths to follow, Jason Moran is the pianist of insertions and shocks, the pianist who at any moment *breaks the ice*, literally and figuratively: he demonstrates how to set off a modular music party (rather than a "composition"), and how to enter, or literally penetrate into sound matter. Infiltrate. Lift up. What is fascinating with Moran is his ability to always know where to *position himself*, inviting the trio to dance at the right distances, thus favoring the coming together and giving true value to a sudden proximity. He spends his time tipping (shoving) one into the other. To begin (anew), is the magnificent urging of "Refraction", a composition first presented by the pianist on his album *Artist in Residence* (which he is in a way with Trio 3 today), offering Oliver Lake the opportunity to revisit some of his memories. His family owned a restaurant in Saint Louis, Missouri, where imposingly sat and permanently sang a jukebox. While his mother tended to her duties in the kitchen singing spirituals, and the jukebox played its daily dose of wonders, this is where, amongst other places, the future saxophone player had an epiphany regarding the powers of music. Reach and cross. To take multiple shapes and forms. Amiri Baraka had foretold, talking about Trio 3, "the change is the exchange."

Alexandre Pierrepont. Translation: Romain Tesler

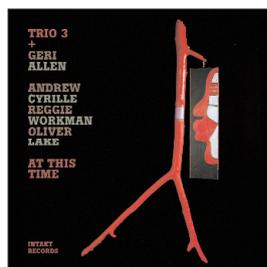
## OLIVER LAKE - REGGIE WORKMAN - ANDREW CYRILLE ON INTAKT RECORDS



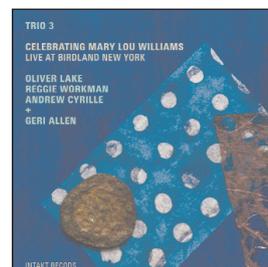
**TRIO 3**  
TIME BEEING  
Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman,  
Andrew Cyrille  
Intakt CD 106



**TRIO 3 + IRENE SCHWEIZER**  
BERNE CONCERT  
Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman,  
Andrew Cyrille, Irène Schweizer  
Intakt CD 150



**TRIO 3 + GERI ALLEN**  
AT THIS TIME  
Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman,  
Andrew Cyrille, Geri Allen  
Intakt CD 162



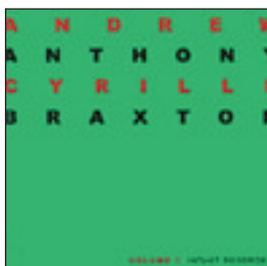
**TRIO 3 + GERI ALLEN**  
CELEBRATING MARY LOU WILLIAMS  
Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman,  
Andrew Cyrille, Geri Allen  
Intakt CD 187



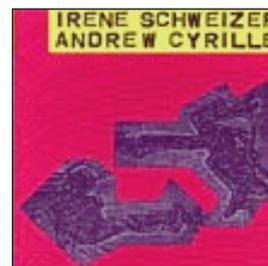
**LAKE-WEBER-ULRICH**  
FOR A LITTLE DANCIN'  
Oliver Lake: Alto Saxophone  
Christian Weber: Bass  
Dieter Ulrich: Drums  
Intakt CD 172



**LAKE-WEBER-ULRICH**  
FEAT. NILS WOGRAM  
ALL DECKS – LIVE AT UNERHÖRT  
Oliver Lake: Alto Saxophone  
Nils Wogram: Trombone  
Christian Weber: Bass  
Dieter Ulrich: Drums  
Intakt CD 172



**ANDREW CYRILLE**  
ANTHONY BRAXTON  
DUO PALINDROME 2002. VOL.1+2  
Anthony Braxton: Saxophones  
Andrew Cyrille: Drums  
Intakt CD 088 + Intakt CD 089



**IRENE SCHWEIZER**  
ANDREW CYRILLE  
Irène Schweizer, Piano  
Andrew Cyrille, Drums  
Intakt CD 008