

TRIO 3 + VIJAY IYER

WIRING

Oliver Lake Alto Saxophone

Reggie Workman Bass

Andrew Cyrille Drums

Vijay Iyer Piano

Oliver Lake: Talkin Stick Pub (SESAC), Reggie Workman: Sculptured Sounds Pub (BMI), Andrew Cyrille: Major-A-Music Pub (ASCAP), Vijay Iyer: Multiplicity Music (SESAC). Recorded August 14, 15, 2013, at Sear Sound, NYC, by James Farber. Mastered April 2, 2014, at Sony/Battery Mastering by Mark Wilder and James Farber. Photos: John Rogers. Liner notes: Amiri Baraka. Cover art: Oliver Lake. Graphic design: Jonas Schoder.

Intakt CD 233 EAN_7640120192334

TRIO 3 + VIJAY IYER. WIRING

By Amiri Baraka

If you want to hear real music not some kind of shallow “entertainment” this is your number, four great musicians trying to change your world. There is nothing superficial or frivolous in this music, it is organic and necessary! Within this actual quartet, a flood of emotional worlds. Each a way of seeing “into things” as the great poet Larry Neal might say.

From the oldest head, the ancient Reggie Workman, who I have dug since those “thrilling days of yesteryear”, when he, with his legendary fingers, gave Trane a wondrous path. Or remember when super drummer Andrew Cyrille was Cecil Taylor’s hippest earth link. Hey, you might have been on the scene when the World Saxophone Quartet was stepping and Oliver was a main man. But in the real world these musicians never stopped doing it. They might have appeared way back, but they have brought the music with them, carrying its history and making new futures. Don’t ask me how I know all this, just lucky, I guess.

For you listeners, the luckiest thing to happen for you was the inclusion of wonderful pianist Vijay Iyer in the mix. Part of my luck is that I have worked with each one of these bad dudes with some word-music, and so was also brought along with wave of the new to the new. And the brew here smokes.

Each musician contributes at least one composition to the CD. I heard all them live at the Birdland gig, last August. From jump, here, Workman’s pulse brings it live. His warm groove on Vijay’s “The Prowl” opens it as a perfectly logical hipness. You feel “Well that’s the way it’s supposed to be!” Trio 3 always travels with a well ordered sense of their music, but they have had the creative flair to understand how the addition of very creative guests voices expands their voice and the music’s reach. So the addition of Iyer brings a complex melodic expression.

Clark (“Chiara”) added another feeling to the side, a reflective calming that has Vijay feeling and reaching. But the group’s whole design seems to be a desire to create an easy and shifting voice, that is itself, but can be altered as needed by the compositions and featured players at any given time and space. Open, imploring improvisational expertise. But at the same time, clearly, held together by minds, skills, and great musicality. The compositions are the result of these elements and at the same time meant to create these.

“Shave”, Lake’s funky contribution. Seeming straight forward but quickly refining that and seeking another clarity to install its complexity. He can never leave the line alone. “Rosmarie”, apparently, is the collective creation of the



whole band. That's both very old fashioned and determinedly new. Iyer presents the tender theme. A summing up of the weight of its romantic elements. It's Cyrille who inhabits the space with melody. But Vijay takes it to a frantic pace.

Oliver Lake's "Wiring" has him understated but moving with Reggie signifying. There is still a great deal of discipline here since the form is so open. "Let it fly, but hold on tight!" But in the case of Bu's restoration by Cyrille, the only reaction is to be amazed at the strength and spirit of Andrew's interpretation. You probably know "Buhainia", Art Blakey, was the actual Jazz Messenger but listening to Cyrille, you understand that he's one too. But they all are. As a tour de force and wonderful understanding of the potential heroic quality of Art, there is Vijay Iyer's forceful "Suite for Trayvon (and Thousands More)", a truly original musical dramatization of one of the most damning and impacting events in this nation still shell-shocked by slavery. It is a moving example of what artists who want their works to spring from the whole of society's life not just the inside of their heads. So that finally they are emblazoned in all of us.

Amiri Baraka, November 3, 2013

Amiri Baraka was a musician too, he played his words with us.* Andrew Cyrille for Trio 3
 (*Oct 7, 1934 – January 9, 2014)

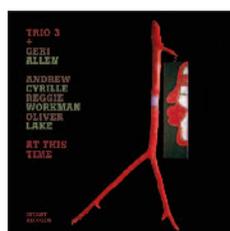
TRIO 3 WITH OLIVER LAKE - REGGIE WORKMAN - ANDREW CYRILLE ON INTAKT RECORDS



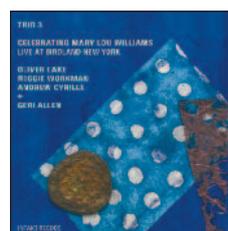
TRIO 3
 Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman,
 Andrew Cyrille
 TIME BEEING
 Intakt CD 106



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



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



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



TRIO 3 + JASON MORAN
 Oliver Lake, Reggie Workman,
 Andrew Cyrille, Jason Moran
 REFRACTION -
 BREAKIN' GLASS
 Intakt CD 217