DRIMALA RECORDS CATALOGUE

Updated September 2004



Southern Extreme

Joel Futterman – *piano, curved soprano saxophone*
Kidd Jordan – *tenor saxophone*
Alvin Fielder – *drums*

The debut release for Drimala Records and for this veteran trio. The CD has sold over 5,000 copies and continues to be one of the top sellers for Drimala Records.

DR 98-001-01

- Release: April 1998
- 7 tracks: 69 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 8-panel booklet
- Outer sleeve

- ❑ *4 Stars, All Music Guide*
- ❑ *Their rapport is obvious, and the product is engrossing. You will like this union. – Cadence Magazine*
- ❑ *There is great strength in the rush of this music as well as tenderness. – Coda Magazine*



Another Shining Path

Gary Hassay – *tenor saxophone*
William Parker – *bass*
Toshi Makihara – *drums*

From a trio of survivors who have been performing creative improvisational new music for over two decades. This CD is one of the most highly acclaimed recordings on Drimala, particularly for the way it captures William Parker in an unusual setting.

DR 99-347-01

- Release: December 1999
- 8 tracks: 69 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 8-panel booklet

- ❑ *3 ½ Stars, All Music Guide*
- ❑ *A lyrical, surprising, and superbly executed series of performances. – All About Jazz*
- ❑ *Rippling, flowing compositions move with an uncanny, of-the-moment logic that resembles free thought. -- CMJ*



Beyond Noend With Errante

F. Gerard Errante – *clarinet and electronics*

Considered by many to be one of the definitive clarinet recordings of the last 10 years. Features internationally renowned clarinetist, F. Gerard Errante, in a series of works written specifically for him by some of the leading composers of modern creative music.

DR 99-347-02

- Release: January 2000
- 10 tracks: 61 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 16-panel booklet

- ❑ *3 ½ Stars, All Music Guide*
- ❑ *Prepare to be convinced that wonderful new music is being written and splendidly performed – Folio Magazine*
- ❑ *Errante is a monster. – Electronic Music Foundation*



DRTP 02-347-01

- Release: January 2002
- 15 tracks: 57 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 8-panel booklet

Identity Papers

Jeffrey Ethan Lee – *voice*
Lori-Nan Engler – *voice*
Toshi Makihara – *percussion*

From award winning poet, Jeffrey Ethan Lee, this is highly praised, award-winning work is a 57-minute extended poem. An intense spoken word project.

"I was inspired to write "identity papers" after a young assailant tried to kill me with a hammer at a subway station in Brooklyn in August, 1994, while I was finishing a Ph.D. at NYU. This poem comes from the tradition of saying the hard truth in the most direct way possible (I think of Etheridge Knight and Ralph Ellison as models)." – Jeffrey Ethan Lee



DRTP 02-347-02

- Release: February 2002
- 8 tracks: 40 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 8-panel booklet

Naked Mirror

John Blum – *piano*

The debut recording from New York City pianist John Blum. After more than a decade of performing as both a soloist, large ensemble leader, and highly regarded side man with some of the most recognized and respected musicians in jazz, John has developed an immediately recognizable voice.

- ❑ *John Blum has spoken well; this music has meaning, and its power runs deep. – Jazz USA*
- ❑ *Blum reveals his inner being through his art, and the listening experience becomes very personal. He throws down the gauntlet, and the astute observer is the richer for accepting the challenge. – One Final Note*



DR 02-347-01

- Release: April 2002
- 8 tracks: 54 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 8-panel booklet

Shadow & Light

Joe Giardullo – *flute, bass clarinet, soprano saxophone, shenai*
Joe McPhee – *tenor saxophone, pocket trumpet*
Mike Bisio – *bass*
Tani Tabbal – *drums*

Recorded on September 11, 2001, *Shadow & Light* is a rich haunting testament to the power of four musicians working at the height of their art to put into music the events surrounding them.

- ❑ *A subdued, profoundly spiritual – often mournful, but also hopeful – tribute to the power of creating music in the moment. – Paul DeBarros, Signal to Noise*
- ❑ *To have worked through numbness to this subdued affirmation is really quite extraordinary. – The Wire Magazine*
- ❑ *3 ½ Stars, All Music Guide*



DR 02-347-02

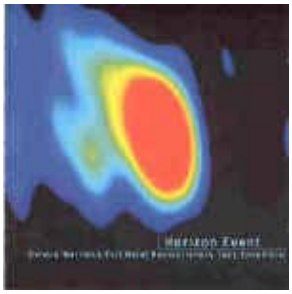
Blackwater Bridge

Gary Hassay – *tenor saxophone*
Anne LeBaron – *harp*

An extraordinarily sensitive, introspective duet from two musicians who have been performing in the moment for over two decades. World renowned harpist LeBaron was in Davey Williams and LaDonna Smith's band in the early 1970s, while Gary Hassay has been called the "greatest tenor player you have never heard of" for his 20+ plus years of performing in the backwaters of America.

- Release: July 2002
- 10 tracks: 64 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 8-panel booklet

- ❑ *What we find here is one of the best records that we can listen to these days in the area of musical improvisation. – Rui Paes*
- ❑ *There is a surprising peacefulness to the whole. – 4 stars, All Music Guide*



DR 02-347-03

Horizon Event

Dennis Warren – *drums*
Jose Arroyo – *tenor saxophone*
Andy Voelker – *drums*
Albey Balgochian – *bass*
Chris Florio – *guitar*

The first recording in over five years from Dennis Warren and the Full Metal Revolutionary Jazz Ensemble…the same band that launched the careers of Glen Spearman, Raphe Malik, Tor Snyder and many others. 75 minutes of nonstop driving rhythms that pick up where Blood Ulmer and Shannon Jackson left off.

- Release: July 2002
- 3 tracks: 75 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 4-panel booklet

- ❑ *A fascinating sonic space full of contrasting gravitational forces. – Signal to Noise Magazine*
- ❑ *Dennis' drumming is the stuff riddling was invented for. – All About Jazz*



DR 02-347-04

Speakin' Out

Michael Marcus – *clarinet, straight tenor saxophone, straight alto saxophone, saxello, bass clarinet*

The first solo release for veteran horn man, Michael Marcus. This recording finds him working his way through his extensive array of horns in glorious extended improvisations.

- Release: August 2002
- 10 tracks: 51 minutes
- Shrink wrapped, 6-panel cardboard packaging

- ❑ *Michael Marcus' solo album impresses with its brevity, talent, and architectural structure. – 3 Stars, All Music Guide*
- ❑ *Ranks among the loveliest, smartest solo albums released in a very long time. – Dusted*
- ❑ *The recording is a fine documentation of innovative reed playing – Signal to Noise*



DR 02-347-05

- Release: September 2002
- 7 tracks: 53 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 6-panel booklet

Language of Swans

Joe Giardullo – *alto and soprano saxophones, flute, bass clarinet*
Chris Sullivan – *bass*
Michael Thompson – *drums, piano*

Giardullo returns to Drimala with his trio in a gentle, flowing recording designed to affirm the beauty of life and its rhythms. *Language of Swans* takes the listener on a musical journey of discovery that doesn't come along often in these days.

- ❑ *Giardullo sounds positively possessed blowing smoldering sheets of sound from his soprano – All About Jazz*
- ❑ *Seven extraordinary tracks! – Jazz Review*
- ❑ *The tunes are paragons of beauty. – All Music Guide 3 ½ Stars*



DR 02-347-06

- Release: January 2003
- 10 tracks: 55 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 6-panel booklet

Aercine

Michael Jefry Stevens – *piano*
Herb Robertson – *trumpet*
Mark Feldman – *violin*
Steve Rust – *bass*
Harvey Sorgen – *drums*

This is the group's first release for Drimala and the first recorded meeting of Feldman and Robertson on record. The dynamics and aesthetics these five great musicians bring to the music transcends each individual's creative voice.

Aercine is glorious proof that the mark of a musical idiom's maturity and universality is that it s principles and conventions can be understood, assimilated, and ultimately improvised by musicians from all over the world. – Paris Transatlantic Review



DR 03-347-01

- Release: March 2003
- 8 tracks: 61 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 6-panel booklet

Apostolic Polyphony

Charles Waters – *alto saxophone, clarinet*
Matthew Shipp – *piano*
Andrew Barker – *drums*

Apostolic Polyphony is the first recording by a trio that has been getting rave reviews in New York City. Charles Waters, known for his work with Gold Sparkle Band, is joined by longtime fellow Gold Sparkle drummer, Andrew Barker, and pianist Matthew Shipp, who is on everyone's list these days. The cd features a special remix track by dj Shannon Fields.

- ❑ *Blurring the line between composition and improvisation, the band moves seamlessly from dirges saturated with Messianic color to full throttle free playing – Paul Niles*
- ❑ *The type of free jazz that makes improv fans go wild…the results are mind blowing – Indieville Records*



DR 03-347-02

Now Is

Joe Giardullo – *soprano saxophone*
Joe McPhee – *soprano saxophone, pocket trumpet, flugelhorn*
Mike Bisio – *bass*
Tani Tabbal – *drums*

Now Is brings the Giardullo Quartet back to Drimala Records for their second release. Working in a groove of radical grace that those who have had the fortune of hearing them live know all to well, their music "conveys the quietude of dawn, the energy of daylight, and the contemplativeness of night."

- Release: July 2003
- 7 tracks: 55 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 4-panel booklet

❑ *Prepare to be transported – All About Jazz-New York*
❑ *Just think about serenity, awareness of life, and a little bit of primordial energy. – Massimo Ricci, Italy*



DR 03-347-03

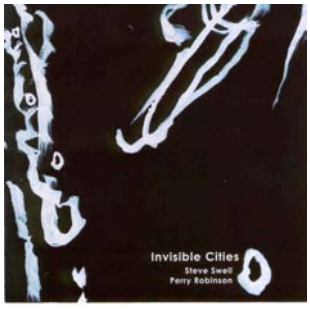
Rules of Engagement, Vol. 1

Dominic Duval – *bass*
Mark Whitecage – *alto saxophone*

Rules of Engagement, Vol 1 finds two veteran improvisers working at the height of their creative power. The first in a three-cd set with Dominic Duval paired off with leading improvisers, this cd testifies to a great sense of complicity and virtuosity while remaining imminently accessible. The next two volumes will feature Duval with Steve Swell and Joe McPhee.

- Release: October 2003
- 8 tracks: 44 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 4-panel booklet

Duval has come from virtual obscurity to completely redefining the concept of the bass playing in only a matter of years. Performing a lifetime of living in each project, his playing rips at your soul while making your feet want to dance. – Paul Niles



DR 03-347-04

Invisible Cities

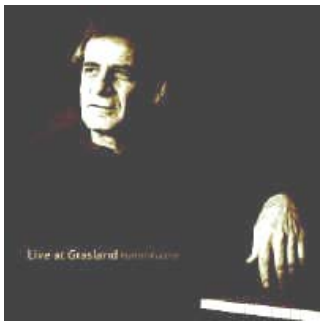
Steve Swell – *trombone*
Perry Robinson – *clarinet*

Invisible Cities features two generations of improvisers coming together in a tour de force of improvisational intimacy. The recording features Perry Robinson, who single handedly kept the jazz clarinet tradition alive for almost two decades, and Steve Swell, New York's keeper of the jazz trombone flame. Together they speak a musical language few musicians understand, but one that greatly expands the Art of the Duet.

- Release: January 2004
- 13 tracks: 52 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 4-panel booklet

❑ *"Robinson is still the 'sui generis' master of his own idiom. Whether you are looking for an endless array of composed music, an utterly original improvisational voice, or simply a gateway to other worlds of sound and consciousness, Perry Robinson is one-stop shopping." – Matt Snyder*

❑ *"Steve Swell extends the lineage of adventurous trombonists, Roswell Rudd, Gracham Moncure, and George Lewis with his daring sense of playing and composition." – Jazz Times*



DR 04-347-01

Live at Grasland

Burton Greene – *piano*

Live at Grasland is Burton Greene's first solo recording in over six years. In one of his most expansive recordings yet, Burton selected pieces that allowed him to breathe in and out, both very structured, focused pieces that collect energy with their specific rhythms and forms, and looser, freer pieces that allow him to expand.

- Release: March 2004
- 8 tracks: 61 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 4-panel booklet

- ❑ *This is music needing no stylistic framework to be appreciated; it only gets better with each listening. – Massimo Ricci, Italy*
- ❑ *"Greene probes deeply into the interior of the tunes, expressively taking a free stance in constructing his complex improvisations. He can be thunderous and he can be delicate, but in either case the music rings out in joyous celebration of life."— Frank Rubolino, Cadence Magazine*



DR 04-347-02

Let Them Pass (Laissez-Passer)

John Heward – *drums*
Mike Bisio – *bass*
Joe Giardullo – *reeds*

Let Them Pass (Laissez-Passer) is veteran Heward's first release as a leader leading the trio in a music full with a thick frothy blend of reflections, tradition, and emotion. The listening is almost deafening as the trio treads effortlessly from the Middle East-Eastern European modal traditions to a simple very American blues form.

- Release: May 2004
- 7 tracks: 53 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 4-panel booklet

- ❑ *"John Heward's trio moves with fire and pop, producing consistently compelling improvisations and exceptional excursions into a creativity fresh as a breaking wave" – All About Jazz*
- ❑ *"A foreign beauty." – Signal to Noise Magazine*



DR 04-347-03

PLAY

Michael Jefry Stevens – *piano*
Michael Rabinowitz – *bassoon*

PLAY continues Drimala Records' ongoing exploration of the *art of the duet*. On this recording pianist Stevens is joined for the first time since the early 1990s by former Mosaic Sextet band mate Michael Rabinowitz on bassoon. The two Michaels create a listening experience that is as varied and rich musically as it is deep aesthetically.

- Release: August 2004
- 14 tracks: 65 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 4-panel booklet

- ❑ *"Throughout this intimate and thoughtful session, the duo covers terrain that evokes grand classicism, jazz, and attuned improv, rich on reflection and spirit, with room for playfulness that at times evokes a celebratory feeling between old friend." – One Final Note*



Tribute to Paradise

Ellen Christi – *vocals*
Gary Hassay – alto saxophone

Tribute to Paradise is a remarkably sympathetic pairing of one of the most innovative saxophonists working today with the exquisite ingénue of the vocal free form stage. On this recording, Ellen Christi and Gary Hassay create a sound stage that transports the audience to an otherworldly peace far above the daily mechanisms of living.

DR 04-347-04

- Release: September 2004
- 14 tracks: 65 minutes
- Shrink wrapped jewel box
- 4-panel booklet

- ❑ *"A beautiful tribute to old friends" – Jazz Recordings*
- ❑ *"Who but Drimala Records would have thought to put these two artists together for a performance rare in its originality and powerful enough to move to tears." – Stacey K., Critic's Corner*

Upcoming 2004 Releases

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT, VOL 2
Dominic Duval, Joe McPhee

BASSX3
Gephard Ullmann, Peter Herbert, Chris Dahlgren

FALLING WATER (*LIVE AT MAE D'AQUA*)
Joe Giardullo, Carlos Zingaro

Detailed information about these recordings, the artists, reviews, and full-length tracks are available on the Drimala website, www.drimala.com.

Drimala Records Promotion

- An active web site that receives almost 100,000 visitors per month
- Regular advertising in related music magazines, such as *Signal to Noise, Coda, All About Jazz – New York and Los Angeles*
- Radio service to over 100 leading college and other non-commercial radio stations
- Festival and concert promotions, such as Guelph Jazz Festival and NYC Vision Fest
- In-store promotion copies, poster, and sampler disc available

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