

Chamber America

Ensemble: The Claudia Quintet

Bandleader: John Hollenbeck

Ensemble members:

NAME	INSTRUMENT
John Hollenbeck	Drums, percussion
Chris Speed	Clarinet, tenor saxophone
Ted Reichman	Accordion
Drew Gress	Acoustic bass
Matt Moran	Vibraphone, percussion
Gary Versace	Piano

Title of Work: Royal Toast
Composer: John Hollenbeck
Date completed: December 2009
Work Length: 75 minutes

Work Description (Include information about your premiere concerts):

Ars Nova Workshop presented the premiere of this concert-length suite at International House in Philadelphia, PA on December 6, 2000. The Claudia Quintet followed this with concerts at Towson State University on December 7, 2009; a recording session on December 14-16, 2009 at Brooklyn Recording, and the European premiere at De Singel (Antwerp, Belgium) on March 5, 2010, a four-concert European tour, and a New York City premiere at 45bleeker on June 14, 2010.

The Claudia Quintet has been finding the majestic in the mundane (or vice versa) for more than a dozen years. Nowhere is that more evident than on Royal Toast, where Hollenbeck began by collecting song titles found in often unlikely sources, divorcing them from their original context, and devising music inspired by these evocative phrases.

Hollenbeck's compositions somehow conjure raucous beauty from dizzying complexity, enticing the emotions with lilting melodies or irresistible grooves while engaging the cerebral side in a surreptitious workout. The music marries jazz, new music, post-rock – but no laundry list of influences is quite sufficient to describe their iconoclastic sounds. Suffice it to say, you can feel secure bringing your hipster nephew and your math professor along to a gig, and everyone will go home happy.

[The Claudia Quintet Royal Toast EPK](#)

Recording (CD title/label and other related info):
Royal Toast (Cuneiform Records)

Technical Requirements/Specs:
Contact the John Hollenbeck

General Information:

Booking contact: Andreas Scherrer, Company of Heaven
Phone: (212) 281-9785
Email: info@companyofheaven.com
Web: www.companyofheaven.com