

Chamber America

Ensemble: Golden Quartet

Bandleader: Wadada Leo Smith

Ensemble members:

NAME	INSTRUMENT
Wadada Leo Smith	Trumpet
John Lindberg	Bass
Angelica Sanchez	Piano
Pheeroan aKLaff	Drums

Title of Work: Freedom Summer
Composer: Wadada Leo Smith
Date completed: September 2010
Work Length: 40 minutes

Work Description:

Ten Freedom Summers is a large work inspired by the activity of the Civil Rights Movement, from The Niagara Falls Congresses of 1905 and 1948, when President Harry S. Truman signed the Executive Order 9981, and up to Dr. Martin Luther King's Memphis speech in 1968.

Over the years, I thought that I would compose a tribute to the Civil Rights Movement, centered in the activities of two decades 1948-1968, much in the same way that August Wilson's plays comment on ten decades of the African-American experience in America, but through musical composition/improvisation. The premiere took place on November 13, 2010, at Washington University, St Louis, MO. The audience size was 120 and was well presented. We got a very large pre-concert cover. The second concert was November 20, 2010, at The Coolidge Auditorium at the US Library of Congress in Washington, DC. It was a sold-out audience of 500+. We received a lot of pre-concert cover and many reviews. There was a third concert at the Brooklyn Public Library in Brooklyn, NY. Another sold-out audience-- 230+. The fourth concert was at the Firehouse in New Haven with full house of 90 people. The world premiere will take place October 28, 29 and 30, 2011 at Redcat in Los Angeles.

The *Freedom Summers* has been the most supported in the history of all of my projects. And it has created a great buzz and is making a difference in my life and work. I have enjoyed the new info that I received through my research.

Recording:

Technical Requirements/Specs:
See Booking Contact.

General Information:

Booking contact: Cuadernos de jazz, Madrid, Spain, Maria A Garcia
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