

Rob Brown Trio

Ensemble members:

NAME	INSTRUMENT
Rob Brown	Alto Saxophone
Satoshi Takeishi	Percussion
Daniel Levin	Cello

Title of the commissioned work: Untitled

Composer's Statement:

This project is a series of portraits, no limited to musicians and composers. The music will delve into the sonic, melodic, harmonic, and structural possibilities of the sax/cello/percussion trio, applied to abstract impressions of the particular portrait subject. Being pitched higher than the bass, the cello is very agile, yet still functions well in the bass role. The cello may also function in a melodic role equivalent to the sax, or be the lead voice with sax accompaniment. The open and timeless sound of the taiko drums breaks the aural associations of the 20th century jazz drum kit, and leaves more space, allowing the music to breathe. The flexibility of the ensemble sound will help portray figures from all walks of life, and any time period.

As a jazz improviser, the element of chance and the surprise of improvisation is what makes these compositions work. I rely on the creative abilities of the musicians I work with. I conceptualize the music, write parts, and work out harmonies, melodies and rhythms. But the individual and combined creative talent of the musicians is what breathes life into the music. Their interactive creativity is essential to the process/outcome. This music will be melodic, funky, abstract, joyful, sonically intense, earthy, and sometimes cool, with an intriguing mix of timbres. It will have both obvious and subtle structure, yet openness for extended improvisation.

Length of the work: 52 minutes
Recording: Untitled, NotTwo Records

Stated Technical Requirements:

Bass amp, saxophone microphone

Contact Information:

Composer: Rob Brown
Booking contact person: Rob Brown
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