Quintessence

Ensemble members: Michele Rosewoman—piano, keyboards (composer)
Mark Shim—tenor saxophone
Miguel Zenon—alto and soprano saxophones
Brad Jones—bass
Derrek Phillips—drums

Title of the commissioned work: Advance Dance

Instrumentation:
piano, keyboards; tenor saxophone; alto and soprano saxophones; bass; drums

Composer’s Statement:
“To find an inherent and organic pocket where the forward motion of the 3.5 meter could dance, and to find warm colors and textures that would enhance, was the goal. This piece started from the desire to further explore mysteries of the ‘cracks’ of time, the spaces between the spaces between the beats. Cycling patterns on different instruments (over a 2-bar bass line phrase in 3.5/4 and 3/4) cross through each other, revealing further rhythmic variants and possibilities. The ear is pushed towards hearing the less obvious cracks of time and the musicians and listeners are challenged to hear and feel in a multi-dimensional way. The horn parts extend each other horizontally in the beginning, implying vertical harmonies, and later their parallel movement emphasizes rhythmic precision. As the purpose of our music is to set up environments for improvisation, and as we explore the possibilities of this piece, I will continue to develop and embellish the compositional ideas for some time.”

Length of the work: 20 Minutes
Recording: Available. Please contact the artist directly.

Stated Technical Requirements:
“Tuned grand piano; Drum set, specs to be provided; Bass Amp, specs to be provided; House Sound System and PA system with 4 separate monitors and 3-4 separate monitor mixes
Microphones: boom stands as needed for piano; tenor and alto saxophones, drum set and acoustic bass.”

Contact Information:
Composer: Michele Rosewoman
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