Ensemble: Invocation

Bandleader: Rez Abbasi

Ensemble members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>INSTRUMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rez Abbasi</td>
<td>Guitar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rudresh Mahanthappa</td>
<td>Alto saxophone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vijay Iyer</td>
<td>Piano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johannes Weidenmueller</td>
<td>Bass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan Weiss</td>
<td>Drums</td>
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</tbody>
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Title of Work: Suno Suno
Composer: Rez Abbasi
Date completed: October 2010
Work Length: 75 minutes

Work Description:
Invocation came together in 2008, as a vehicle for Rez Abbasi's continuing explorations of the cross-pollination between jazz and South Asian music. With two albums of original compositions, one of which was commissioned by Chamber Music America, Invocation has garnered high praise from fans and critics alike - including a spot in DownBeat's top albums of the last decade. The group's wide reaching vision and virtuosity comes from some of the most compelling players in jazz today; Rudresh Mahanthappa, Vijay Iyer, Johannes Weidenmueller, Dan Weiss and, of course, Rez Abbasi.

The work is primarily informed by Qawwali, a Pakistani song form sung by Sufi mystics for the sake of praising God. Qawwali's musical features are deceptive. While the subtle and trance-like melodic variations may seem repetitive, Qawwali possesses a unique driving force, a broad dynamic range and a group cohesiveness that creates a deep sense of groove that is unmatched. Abbasi has succeeded in incorporating all of these elements and more, into a creative hotbed for new musical composition and expression.

Recording:
Suno Suno (Enja Records)

Technical Requirements/Specs:
Drum set, piano, pa system, guitar and bass amps

General Information:
Booking contact: Rez Abbasi
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