



THE NRG ENSEMBLE Hold That Thought (Mars Archive #2)

Label

CORBETT VS. DEMPSEY

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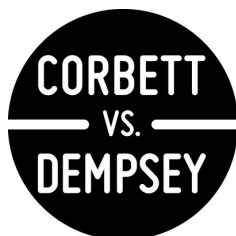
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Territory

NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE

Genre

FILE UNDER - N - JAZZ



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DESCRIPTION

From a night of music in Holland that's become legendary among **NRG Ensemble** enthusiasts, *Hold That Thought* presents a blazing concert of the quintet's unique sound. With **Mars Williams** and **Ken Vandermark** on reeds, **Kent Kessler** and **Brian Sandstrom** on basses (the latter doubling on trumpet and electric guitar), and **Steve Hunt** on drums, this incarnation of the band was arguably its tightest and mightiest, taking the inspiration of founder **Hal Russell** (1926-1992) and running with it. All the way. The quirkiness and eccentricity of Russell's vision remained a lasting part of the fabric of NRG, but the level of discipline and craftsmanship achieved by this version of the combo is arguably taken to a whole other level. Working with original material, mostly by Williams and Vandermark, NRG Ensemble had its signature pugilistic feel, with lots of time changes and dynamic shifts, quick starts and hard stops. Williams certainly knew how to push up the energy/NRG with a strangulated solo or a sudden burst of beautiful melody; all his years in creative music, from time spent as **Roscoe Mitchell**'s copyist to countless weeks on the road kicking ass with the **Psychedelic Furs**, led him to a core understanding that linked many kinds of noise-making – rock, funk, soul, free jazz, squeaky-bonk improvised music. Those tributaries meet in NRG Ensemble, with his longstanding colleagues gathered to joyfully up the ante. Williams chose this beautiful recording as one of three archival tapes he wanted released as soon as possible, and he approached CvsD with the job of shepherding them into the world just before his tragically early death from cancer in November, 2023.

TRACKLISTING

01. Straight Time (**Vandermark**) (7:04)
02. Hold That Thought (**Williams**) (7:58)
03. Automatic Platinum (**Vandermark**) (6:24)
04. Intro: Pet Peeve (0:17)
05. Pet Peeve (**Williams**) (7:33)
06. 1000 Ft. Drop (**Vandermark**) (7:23)
07. In The Middle Of Pennsylvania (**Hunt**) (10:27)
08. Wire Money (**Williams**) (5:17)
09. Cakewalk (**Williams**) (8:14)
10. Intro: Cut Flowers (0:16)
11. Cut Flowers (**Vandermark**) (14:39)

HIGHLIGHTS

- From a night of music in Holland that's become legendary among **NRG Ensemble** enthusiasts, *Hold That Thought* presents a blazing concert of the quintet's unique sound.
- Featuring **Mars Williams** and **Ken Vandermark** on reeds, **Kent Kessler** and **Brian Sandstrom** on basses (the latter doubling on trumpet and electric guitar), and **Steve Hunt** on drums.
- Williams chose this beautiful recording as one of three archival tapes he wanted released as soon as possible, and he approached CvsD with the job of shepherding them into the world just before his tragically early death from cancer in November, 2023.

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