



## ALLEN LOWE AND THE CONSTANT SORROW ORCHESTRA Louis Armstrong's America Volume 2

Label

**ESP-DISK**

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**2CD**

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Territory

**NORTH AMERICAN EXCLUSIVE**

Genre

**FILE UNDER - L - JAZZ**

**ESP-DISK'**

### DESCRIPTION

Volume 2. One might think that an album titled *Louis Armstrong's America* is a tribute to the famed trumpeter, and certainly he's a focus here, but a normal tribute would feature compositions by him, or at least associated with him. **Allen Lowe** doesn't operate in the realm of the predictable, though; instead, the concept – powered entirely by Lowe compositions – takes in not just **Armstrong's** influence but also the evolution of jazz starting with influences (not all jazz) on Armstrong and continuing to the end of his five-decade career in 1971 – which means that even **Albert Ayler** is touched on in this wide-ranging album (heck, even indie-rock icon **Steve Albini** is referenced). In his liner notes, Lowe quotes himself: "I think that Louis Armstrong may have been the first true post-modernist, picking and choosing between a hierarchy of personal and public musical sources and tastes, but without any concern for the way in which hierarchy acted on all of this in terms of class and even, ultimately, race (e.g.; think of Armstrong's reverence for opera and the way it effected his broad and classically expressive method of phrasing). So he fits all the definitions of post-modernism, even as a kind of anachronistic vessel for so much that was still to come not just in jazz but in all of American popular music, in particular but not only through the mediation of black life and aesthetics. Black song, vernacular and popular, is amazingly flexible in its ways and means of expression, lyrically, rhythmically, and sonically." Personnel includes **Aaron Johnson, Frank Lacy, Ray Anderson, Lewis Porter, Ray Suhy, Will Goble, Rob Landis, Brian Simontacchi, Rob Landis, Loren Schoenberg, Ethan Kogan, Ursula Oppens, Nick Jozwiak, Colson Jimenez, Kresten Osgood, Matthew Shipp, James Paul Nadien, Jeppe Zeeberg, Marc Ribot, Huntley McSwain, and Andy Stein.**

### TRACKLISTING

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|--|--|
| 1.01. Apocalypse Next (5:56)   | 2.01. The Sorrow Song: On the Cooling Board (3:54)     |
| 1.02. Beethoven's on Parade (4:00)                                   | 2.02. Garner's Mood (5:45)                             |
| 1.03. Get Hopped Up (4:51)   | 2.03. Jelly's Last Breath (6:22)                       |
| 1.04. I Should Have Stayed Dead Again (Variation) (4:09)             | 2.04. Charlotte Osgood Mason Dances the African (4:35) |
| 1.05. Dance of the Occupiers (2:50)                                  | 2.05. I Am A Woman Again (2:59)                        |
| 1.06. Black and White Fantasy (6:34)                                 | 2.06. Pete Brown (3:45)                                |
| 1.07. Miss Ann Returns (3:44)  | 2.07. Naked Dancer (5:32)                              |
| 1.08. What Did I Do (To Be So Blue)? (6:06)                          | 2.08. Lester Lopes In (4:31)                           |
| 1.09. Spiritual Impunity (4:13)                                      | 2.09. Tiger Rage (5:39)                                |
| 1.10. The Murder of Jaki Byard (5:34)                                | 2.10. In Dreams Begin Isaac Rosenfeld (4:04)           |
| 1.11. Bix's Silver Chalice (3:14)                                    | 2.11. Lewis Lewis (4:57)                               |
| 1.12. Gone to Heaven (2:19)  | 2.12. Tea with Me (5:54)                               |
| 1.13. In the Mode (7:25)   | 2.13. Poem for D.A. Levy (4:08)                        |
| 1.14. Requiescat (Bird Has Flown) (5:19)                             | 2.14. Joi Lansing Escapes from the Web Of Love (3:02)  |
| 1.15. Hittin' the Jaw (3:19)   | 2.15. Name Her (2:08)                                  |
| 1.16. Middle Brow Blues: William Grant Still at Carnegie Hall (3:22) | 2.16. The Dying Musician (5:00)                        |
| 1.17. John Cage Turns the Page (or: 3:02) (3:02)                     | 2.17. Blues No End (4:37)                              |

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Volume 2 of **Allen Lowe's** *Louis Armstrong's America*.
- The concept of this album – powered entirely by Lowe compositions – takes in not just **Armstrong's** influence but also the evolution of jazz starting with influences on Armstrong and continuing to the end of his five-decade career in 1971.
- RIYL: **Albert Ayler, Steve Albini.**

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