



## BLACK DIAMOND Furniture Of The Mind Rearranging

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### DESCRIPTION

Chicago's **Black Diamond** debuts on We Jazz Records with their new album *Furniture Of the Mind Rearranging*. Co-led by **Artie Black** and **Hunter Diamond** (composers, saxophones, and other woodwinds), Black Diamond appears in both quartet and duo formations. The first three album sides present the quartet, complete with long standing band members **Matt Ulery** (double bass) and **Neil Hemphill** (drums), under the heading "Furniture Of the Mind." The remaining two tracks on side D fall under the title "The Mind Rearranging," with Black and Diamond presenting a meditative duo encounter of two tenor saxophones. *Furniture Of the Mind Rearranging* is an assemblage of new compositions and improvisations that develop the band's established sound and exemplify the way in which this band folds into the Chicago creative music community. The quartet traverses their familiar aesthetic ranges between driving off-kilter groove, plaintive minimalism, and intimate chamber music, with the ever-present spirit of small-group jazz and a hovering influence of Chicago's improvised music culture. And while this collection represents three previous albums and more than a decade of close kinship and artistic evolution between co-leaders Black and Diamond, neither are too precious about any one element on the album. This is very simply the latest work in what continues to be an expanding body work founded on a guiding principle: cultivation without expectation. "Say To Yourself" epitomizes Black Diamond's flexibility, moving with a sense of inevitability between danceable grooves and abstracted improvisation. On this track the band develops material collaboratively, speaking a shared language born out of a decade of growth as an ensemble. The main theme of the piece emphasizes the distinctive blend of Black and Diamond's tenors, unfolded through rhythmic layering and permutation often evident in Black's compositional voice. The two long form duo improvisations "Mycelium" and "Motor Neurons" that make up "The Mind Rearranging" teem with visual prompts and miniature tone-poems. In this instance, the music takes a leap forward as a stark two-saxophone dialogue reminiscent of the austere and nuanced duo recordings of **BAG (Black Artists Group)** saxophonists **Oliver Lake** and **Julius Hemphill**'s "Buster Bee" or the title track of **AACM (Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians)** saxophonists **Joseph Jarman** and **Anthony Braxton**'s "Together Alone." The four sides with two formations flow together in a natural way, forming an idiosyncratic musical entity that is sure to grow with each new spin on the turntable.

### TRACKLISTING

- A1. Carrying the Stick
- A2. Dovetail
- A3. Seen
- B1. Zoetic
- B2. Jayber Crow
- B3. Mantis
- C1. Say to Yourself
- C2. Under the Garden
- C3. Furniture Of the Mind
- D1. Lost Motion
- D2. Catlett
- D3. Mycelium
- D4. Motor Neurons

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Chicago's **Black Diamond** debuts on We Jazz Records with their new album *Furniture Of the Mind Rearranging*.
- Co-led by **Artie Black** and **Hunter Diamond** (composers, saxophones, and other woodwinds), Black Diamond appears in both quartet and duo formations.
- *Furniture Of the Mind Rearranging* is an assemblage of new compositions and improvisations that develop the band's established sound and exemplify the way in which this band folds into the Chicago creative music community.

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