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- John Clare, "Sydney Morning Herald" - April 22, 2000



TIM WILSON TRIO An Element of Logic (Newmarket)

Freedom is just another word for the challenge posed by the trio, and this outfit weaves a spell.

N CONCERT music the string quartet has offered the challenge that most composers have felt they must accept. In jazz, the trio has held out a special promise of exalted teamwork and inspired creation.

The three-pointed star of wind, bass and drums represents an especially stiff challenge and a promise of great freedom. With no chording instrument, the leading voice can move into unchained melody or a play of timbres and abstract shapes. This is fine as long as direction and integration are maintained. In the current wave of strong Australian jazz, the second in about 15 years, such trios have figured prominently. I think of Scott Tinkler's trio, Bernie McGann's, of course, and Andrew Robson's. My son has one, and here is an odd thing.

The trio under review is led by an alto and tenor saxophonist in Melbourne. My son plays those instruments mainly in Sydney. The two have never heard each other, and yet some striking similarities in phrasing emerge. Quite original phrasing, not just shared influences.

As to whom I prefer, my opinion would be utterly suspect. Wilson has a clear, light but well-projected sound, excellent fluency and, as noted, some very fresh phraseology. He writes some nice tunes, based on catchy rhythmic figures (more points of similarity), and bassist Matt Clohesy has contributed an evocative tune.

Jamie Jones is the drummer. The three work well together. The leader's intricate lyricism and occasional, gritty, tonal distortions ride beautifully with this fat rhythm-section sound. A fine, sometimes exhilarating, disc with that good Melbourne feeling (despite some affinity with a certain Sydneysider).

JOHN CLARE





Tim Wilson Trio

An Element Of Logic (Newmarket) Melbourne saxophonist Tim Wilson announces his arrival with this remarkably mature debut album. In the exposed setting of a sax-bass-drums trio, Wilson plays

both alto and tenor with skill, a coolly controlled passion and, yes, an element of logic. Stylistically, there are similarities to New York's Steve Coleman and Sydney's Andrew Robson, but Wilson's ideas are his own. His partners, bassist Matt Clohesy and drummer Jamie Jones, are also strong and alert players. The mostly original program is consistently strong and varied, but the standout track is a masterful treatment of the standard, *Summer Nights. – ADRIAN JACKSON*

Adrian Jackson, 'The Bulletin' - March 21, 2000.

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