

JASON ROBINSON AND ANTHONY DAVIS



DATES AVAILABLE IN 2012-2014

"[For Robinson and Davis,] mood and interplay are more important than volume or scale."
-Ron Wynn, *JazzTimes Magazine*

"[A] consummate summation of the jazz tradition in its most conversational and fundamental form."
-Troy Collins, *All About Jazz*

"almost Ellingtonian in their lapidary elegance and beauty, highlighting the richness of Davis' chordal voicings and Robinson's big, brawny, Ben Webster-ish tone on tenor."
-The Stash Dauber

"[I]nspired by their mutual passion for the music of Duke Ellington and sophisticated blues forms in a variety of hues, [their duet] is by turns lyrical and edgy, inviting and challenging. It's steeped in jazz traditions that are handily extended, which is Robinson's raison d'être for making music."
-George Varge, *San Diego Union-Tribune*

Moody, stark, and emotionally charged. Captured on their critically acclaimed debut recording *Cerulean Landscape* (Clean Feed, 2010), Robinson and pianist Anthony Davis have collaborated for more than ten years as a duo. Telepathic interplay, inspired improvisation, and dynamic original compositions carry listeners to a brilliant and evocative soundscape marked by emotional subtlety, a vast array of sounds, and poignant melodicism. With Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, and the post-60s jazz avant-garde as central reference points, Robinson and Davis bring together their formidable experience in many different music worlds, spilling over the traditional boundaries of the horn/piano duo. One moment minimalist, another orchestral, another beautifully melodic – their duo invites us into a sound world of deep blues, a place of surreal horizons, intense emotions, and hypnotic melodies.

American saxophonist and flutist **Jason Robinson** is a celebrated improviser and composer. The *Los Angeles Times* describes Robinson as "wildly spontaneous" while *JazzTimes* lauds him as a "potent improviser." His music thrives in the fertile overlaps between improvisation and composition, acoustic music and electronics, tradition and experimentalism. Initially a devotee of post-1960s jazz and creative music, Robinson's music is a modern amalgam of cutting-edge trends in jazz and electroacoustic music. Robinson is a critically acclaimed distinctive voice in a new generation of creative musicians in equal dialogue with jazz, popular music, experimental music, and electronic music. Fall 2010 marked a watershed in Robinson's output as a leader. He released three concurrent albums showcasing an enormous breadth of creative work, including *The Two Faces of Janus* (Cuneiform), featuring a New York-based ensemble that includes Drew Gress, Liberty Ellman, George Schuller, Marty Ehrlich and Rudresh Mahanthappa; *Cerulean Landscape* (Clean Feed), featuring the long time collaboration of Robinson and acclaimed pianist and composer Anthony Davis; and *Cerberus Reigning* (Accretions), the much anticipated second installment of the "Cerberus" trilogy, featuring Robinson's solo electroacoustic music. He performs regularly as a soloist (acoustically and with electronics), with his group the Janus Ensemble, and in a variety of collaborative contexts. He has performed at festivals and prominent venues in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Europe and/or recorded with Peter Kowald, George Lewis, Anthony Davis, Drew Gress, Rudresh Mahanthappa, Marty Ehrlich, Eugene Chadbourne, Earl Howard, Toots and the Maytals, Groundation, Bertram Turetzky, Mark Dresser, John Russell, Roger Turner, Gerry Hemingway, Kei Akagi, Mel Graves, Liberty Ellman, Babatunde Olatunji, Mel Martin, Marco Eneidi, Lisle Ellis, Raphe Malik, Mike Wofford, J.D. Parran, and the San Francisco Mime Troupe, among others.



www.jasonrobinson.com

Anthony Davis is a world-renowned pianist and composer whose work embodies a multiplicity of influences, interests and directions. In the 1970s and 80s, he led the influential groups Episteme and Advent, performed with the Leroy Jenkins Trio, Wadada Leo Smith's New Delta Ahkri, and co-led several groups with flutist James Newton. Davis has also performed and recorded with an astounding number of influential musicians, including Ed Blackwell, Anthony Braxton, George Lewis, Marion Brown, Abdul Wadud, and many others. Dubbed a "national treasure" by Opera News for his pioneering work bringing together jazz and opera, his composed music includes five operas and several works for chamber, choral, and orchestral groups. His first opera, *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X*, was premiered by the New York City Opera in 1986 and received a Grammy nomination for its 1992 recording. Other notable works for orchestra and chamber ensemble include commissions by the San Francisco Symphony, Brooklyn Philharmonic, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He received the "Lift Every Voice" Legacy Award from the National Opera Association acknowledging his pioneering work in opera and a fellowship from the Guggenheim Foundation. In addition, he has been honored by the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the New York Foundation of the Arts, the National Endowment of the Arts, the Massachusetts Arts Council and Opera America and has been an artist fellow at the MacDowell Colony and at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center in Italy.



www.musianguide.com/biographies/1608000076/Anthony-Davis.html

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