

Empty Cage Quartet & Soletti/Besnard ***Take Care of Floating***

Kris Tiner - trumpet
Jason Mears - alto sax, clarinet
Aurélien Besnard - clarinets
Patrice Soletti - guitar
Ivan Johnson - bass
Paul Kikuchi - drumset

During the summer of 2008 the acclaimed US-based **Empty Cage Quartet** travelled to Montpellier, France to record and perform with French clarinetist **Aurélien Besnard** and guitarist **Patrice Soletti**. The meeting resulted in *Take Care of Floating*, a thrilling collection of ten original compositions that explore the intersections between American creative jazz and European free improvisation. *Take Care of Floating* has the unique feature of including two separate mixes: one in high resolution and the other mixed specifically for mp3 players and other portable devices.

Take Care of Floating is made possible with support from Chamber Music America and French American Cultural Exchange's CMA/FACE French-American Jazz Exchange Program, funded through the generosity of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, the Florence Gould Foundation, SACEM, Cultures France, and FMEO - Le Bureau Export de la Musique Française.

Rude Awakening Présente

Rude Awakening Présente is a musical collective and record label comprised of over 20 musicians from various cities in France, Denmark, and the United States. Under the initiative of its current Artistic Director, Aurélien Besnard, these musicians have been performing and recording with one another for the past seven years. Rude Awakening Présente provides artistic, technical, logistical and financial assistance for the recording and presentation of its artists.

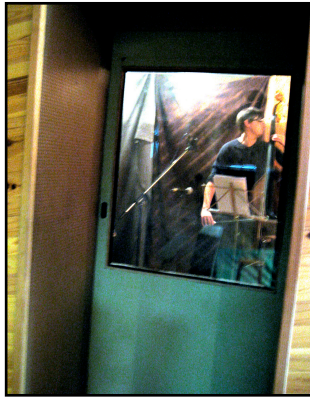
Founded in 2003, the first several years saw Rude Awakening members organising concerts and musical exchanges in various venues throughout Montpellier, France. These concerts were based on improvisation and the ephemeral encounter, with over 70 musicians participating in one or more of the events. During these initial years, a natural evolution led to the creation of more structured musical units within the larger collective, each developing a distinct identity of its own.

These ensembles now make up the Rude Awakening Présente discography, which has 17 releases to date. The projects are broad ranging, from electro-jazz "*ça dépend des mouettes*", avant-jazz "*Glass Onion, Contrabande, Fonetic, La Poche à Sons*" and improvised music "*Soletti/Besnard Duo*" and *SAP(e)*" to noise-jazz "*Figurines* and *Twits*." Also included is the acclaimed DJ set "*Monotype*" by Jonah. Since the label's inception, graphic artist Nicolas Claveau has created a distinct image for all Rude Awakening releases.

Rude Awakening also develops and supports national and international musical exchanges, most notably Hiatus and Spot collective, (Montréal, Quebec), the ILK recording label (Denmark) and the Empty Cage Quartet (USA). At the same time, the collective remains active in organising concerts in Montpellier, presenting monthly performances that showcase internationally renowned artists such as Flymodus and Streifenjunko from Norway, NPL0 (Joane Hetu +Jean Derome from Canada and Ducret/Pasborg Duet from Denmark), Louis Sclavis, Barre Phillips and many others.

Rude Awakening Présente releases are available online at www.rude-awakening.org, *Allumés du Jazz* (Europe) and *Prefecture Records* and *Actuelle CD* (USA). Visit the Rude Awakening website for free audio and video downloads such as "*Microscope*," an excellent collection of improvised music and contemporary jazz, available both as limited edition CDR and as a free MP3.





The **EMPTY CAGE QUARTET** has consistently been praised as one of the most powerful and original new jazz groups to emerge from the American West Coast. For over seven years the group has explored new ways to integrate a diverse mix of musical influences ranging from shuffle swing to free jazz blowouts, minimalist percussion loops to complex modernist gestures, funky stomps, odd-meter marches, robotic grooves, heavy rock, and nearly everything in between. The result is a continually evolving, multidimensional approach to jazz and new music performance, improvisational acuity, and compositional craft that *Amazing Sounds Magazine* has likened to an "urban folk music of the future." The group has toured extensively in the United States and in Canada and Europe, and they have received support from the American Composers Forum, the International Society for Improvised Music, the Festival of New Trumpet Music (FONT), and Chamber Music America's French-American Jazz Exchange. Their 2008 CD *Stratostrophic* (Clean Feed Records) was hailed as "one of the best things in jazz to emerge in the new millennium" by the U.K. Magazine *THE WIRE*. More information is available at www.emptycagequartet.com



AURÉLIEN BESNARD is a clarinetist, composer, and educator living in Montpellier, France. He studied both jazz and classical music at the national academy of Caen. In 2001 he was awarded "best soloist" at the European Improvisation Festival of Poitiers. Besnard is the co-leader of the acclaimed European jazz ensemble *Contrabande*, and he has performed with Louis Sclavis, Barre Phillips, Martin Tétreault, Jean Dérome, Sylvain Chauveau and Bernard Günter among others. He is the founder and current Artistic Director of *Rude Awakening Présente*, a record label and musical collective that is devoted to the development and support of European contemporary jazz and improvised music. To date *Rude Awakening* has presented numerous concerts in France and has a catalogue of 17 releases.



PATRICE SOLETTI is an improviser, composer and guitarist living in Montpellier, France. He studied music at CIM (Paris), and graduated in jazz studies from Evry Music School. Soletti won the Django Reinhardt price in 1995, and in 1996 his soundtrack to the film "Rupture" won first price at "Concours Ile de France." Soletti records and performs with many artists in jazz and contemporary improvised music including Barre Phillips, Louis Sclavis, Philippe Deschepper, Gilles Coronado, Guillaume Orti, Christophe Monnot, Bruno Chevillon, Nicolas Genest, Louis Sclavis, Rémi Charmasson, Jean-Pierre Jullian, Guillaume Seguron, and Denis Fournier.

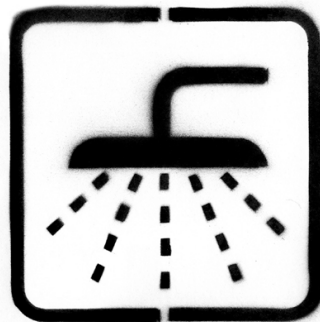
USA Contact for Rude Awakening:

Prefecture Records

7357 25th Ave NW

Seattle, WA 98117

info@prefecturerecords.com



Rude Awakening présente

14 rue Dom Vaissette

34 000 Montpellier, FRANCE

www.rude-awakening.org

ela@rude-awakening.org

www.rude-awakening.org