

WADADA LEO SMITH & TUMO Occupy The World TUM CD 037-2

CD-1: 01 Queen Hatshepsut / 02 The Bell – 2 / 03 Mount Kilimanjaro (Love And Compassion For John Lindberg)

CD-2: 04 Crossing On A Southern Road (A Memorial For Marion Brown) / 05 Occupy The World For Life, Liberty And Justice

Wadada Leo Smith conductor, trumpet (soloist on 01, 02, 04 and 05) John Lindberg double bass (soloist on 03) with TUMO

International release: June 18, 2013

TUMO: Verneri Pohjola trumpet and electronics; Jari Hongisto trombone; Kalle Hassinen horn; Kenneth Ojutkangas tuba; Juhani Aaltonen flute, alto flute, bass flute and piccolo; Fredrik Ljungqvist tenor and sopranino saxophones, clarinet and bass clarinet; Mikko Innanen alto, soprano and baritone saxophones; Seppo Kantonen piano; Iro Haarla harp; Mikko Iivanainen electric guitar; Kalle Kalima electric guitar; Veli Kujala quarter-tone accordion; Terhi Pylkkänen violin; Niels Thorkild Levinsen violin; Barbora Hilpo viola; Iida-Vilhelmiina Laine cello; Ulf Krokfors double bass; John Lindberg double bass; Janne Tuomi drums and marimba; Mika Kallio drums; Stefan Pasborg drums

Occupy The World is an instant classic of creative orchestral music. Over five extended compositions, a total of almost two hours of music, composer and trumpeter Wadada Leo Smith leads a new large ensemble, *TUMO*, to a unique sound world where composed elements meet with strong soloists and group improvisation.

Occupy The World features the legendary composer and trumpeter Wadada Leo Smith with *TUMO* in its first appearance. The 21-member *TUMO*, a new improvising orchestra that was assembled specifically for each project, performs five extended compositions by Smith, including "Occupy The World For Life, Liberty and Justice," perhaps his most ambitious recorded composition to date. The four other compositions were also recorded for the first time for this double-CD and include "Queen Hatshepsut," that was inspired by this ancient ruler of Egypt, the first female leader of a major civilization in history; "The Bell – 2," which took Smith's first recorded composition, "The Bell" (included on Anthony Braxton's *3 compositions of new jazz* in 1968), as its starting point; "Mount Kilimanjaro," a concerto for double bass and a large ensemble that Smith dedicated to its soloist John Lindberg; and "Crossing On A Southern Road," Smith's moving dedication to the late saxophonist Marion Brown. In addition to the principal soloists, Wadada Leo Smith on four compositions and John Lindberg on one, *Occupy The World* features trumpeter Verneri Pohjola, trombonist Jari Hongisto, saxophonists Mikko Innanen and Fredrik Ljungkvist, flutist Juhani Aaltonen, pianist Seppo Kantonen, harpist Iro Haarla, accordionist Veli Kujala, guitarists Kalle Kalima and Mikko Iivanainen and drummers Mika Kallio, Stefan Pasborg and Janne Tuomi, among others.

Wadada Leo Smith (b. 1941), whose roots are in the Delta blues and who was part of the first generation of musicians to come out of Chicago's AACM, has established himself as one of the leading composers and performers of creative contemporary music. Already in the late 1960s, Smith formed the *Creative Construction Company* together with saxophonist Anthony Braxton and violinist Leroy Jenkins and, since the early 1970s, he has mostly performed and recorded with his own groups. He currently leads four principal ensembles: the *Golden Quartet, Mbira, Organic* and the *Silver Orchestra.* In May 2012, Smith released his most extensive recording to date: *Ten Freedom Summers*, a four-CD collection of 19 compositions inspired by the civil rights movement in the United States, which was recently a Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Music and has garnered wide praise and accolades.

TUMO, or *Todella Uuden Musiikin Orkesteri* (in English, the *Really New Music Orchestra*), is a new large ensemble that performed for the first time at TUMfest12 in Helsinki, Finland, in February 2012 under the leadership of Wadada Leo Smith. *TUMO* is not intended to become an institutionalized orchestra. Instead, it is a loose aggregation of musicians with a shared interest in creative improvised music, many of them among the leading improvisers in the Nordic region. The musicians performing in this first incarnation of *TUMO* come from different generations, different backgrounds and even different countries, but are all brought together by their interest in creative improvised music, with most coming from a background in jazz and improvised music and others from a background in classical music. Altogether, in this first appearance, *TUMO* is a unique, one-time-only meeting of a diverse group of high-caliber musicians.

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TUM Records is a Finnish record label that began operations in May 2003. TUM produces high-quality music recordings and selectively organizes concerts and events, such as the TUMfest in Helsinki. The focus of TUM is on improvised, jazz-based music, placing particular emphasis on free expression and the performing artists' own music. In addition to providing younger musicians with exposure and a musical platform, TUM promotes more experienced musicians whose work is not favored by the commercial trends of our time. TUM covers feature works by leading Finnish artists.

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