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Jason Moran
JALC Season 14
Program #5 Airdate 10/26/06

1) Music: Moran solo

2) Vox: Jason Moran

"The first person I was attracted to was Thelonious Monk for all the things he did quote unquote wrong. // Everything he did I thought was right, the flat fingers, the seconds, and his really assymetric melodies and forms...// rather than the 8 bar sections all the way through rather than just the standard jazz structures"

3) Bradley:

JASON MORAN IS CONSTANTLY REFINING HIS OWN APPROACH TO JAZZ PIANO. WHEN HE CAME TO NEW YORK CITY FROM HOUSTON IN 1994, HE STUDIED WITH SOME OF JAZZ 'S MOST ADVENTUROUS EXPLORERS -- JAKI BYARD, ANDREW HILL, AND MUHAL <MOO-hall> RICHARD ABRAMS,

NOW, JASON MORAN'S FINELY BALANCED MIXTURE OF FREEDOM AND SWING HAS PUT HIM IN AMONG THE MOST TALKED ABOUT, AND LISTENED TO, YOUNG JAZZ PIANISTS. JUST AHEAD WE'LL HEAR WHY

IT'S JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER, I'M ED BRADLEY..

4) Vox: Jason Moran

"You do have to be a researcher with the music.//

5) Bradley:

FOR JASON MORAN, MOVING THE ART OF JAZZ PIANO
FORWARD MEANS BEING FLUENT IN ITS HISTORY.

5a) Vox: Jason Moran

"You do have to be a researcher with the music.// for me it's about really covering a lot of bases. it's about knowing Art Tatum, Earl Hines, Fats Waller, Willie the Lion Smith, Then knowing all these people that never really got out there like Herbie Nichols, and Horace Tapscott, Walter Davis Jr, so it's like a slew of people out there and I never want to cheat myself by just sectioning myself off.

5b) Bradley:

THIS HOUR, WE'LL HEAR JASON MORAN ROAM FREE IN TWO SETTINGS, FIRST IN DUET WITH ALTO SAXOPHONIST GREG OSBY, THEN WITH HIS BLUES-INFECTED QUARTET, BANDWAGON.

6) Applause

MORAN AND GREG OSBY HAVE PLAYED TOGETHER SINCE 1997, WHEN THE 22 YEAR OLD MORAN TOOK OVER THE PIANO CHAIR IN OSBY'S GROUP FOR FOUR YEARS. NOW IN HIS MID-FORTIES, OSBY ARRIVED IN NEW YORK IN THE EARLY 1980'S, AMID THE WAVE OF "YOUNG LIONS "-- NEW PLAYERS WHO WERE PICKING UP THE SCENT OF THE BEBOP TRADITION FROM THE 1940'S AND 50'S.

OSBY SET OUT ON A DIFFERENT PATH.

7) Vox: Greg Osby

"I rejected it by involving myself in a myriad environments. playing with the so-called downtown musicians, some of the avant-garde musicians, some of the folk players, played with Salsa bands, Soca, Merengue...just to get that experience and that grounding bec. here I am in New York the center of the world, and i don't want to miss out, by just walking around with blinders on and accepting the label that's being thrust upon me."

8) Bradley:

FROM THE STANLEY KAPLAN PENTHOUSE JASON MORAN AND GREG OSBY OPEN THEIR SET WITH A MUHAL RICHARD ABRAMS' COMPOSITION -- "TIME INTO SPACE INTO TIME."

9) Music: Time Into Space Into Time 5:41

10) Music Jitterbug Waltz 7:02

11) Bradley:

FATS WALLER'S JITTERBUG WALTZ, TAKEN APART AND PUT BACK TOGETHER BY PIANIST JASON MORAN, AND ALTO SAXOPHONIST GREG OSBY.

12) Vox: Greg Osby

"We're trying to redefne the role playing in this situation.

13) Bradley:

GREG OSBY

14) Vox: Greg Osby

Normally a wind instrument player such as myself would stand off to the sidelines, and not be actively engaged when he's not playing. and I want to be a support player even when Jason is playing, so we're trying to figure out how to make that work, and how to fit in between the cracks. you know...work in progress

15) Bradley:

FROM THE STANLEY KAPLAN PENTHOUSE, MORAN AND OSBY PLAY ANDREW HILL'S "ASHES."

16) Music: Ashes 7:03

17) Music: Minstrale 7:58

18) Bradley:

"MINSTRALE" <min-STRAHL> THE COMPOSITION BY SAXOPHONIST GREG OSBY, PLAYED IN DUET WITH THE PIANIST JASON MORAN. JUST AHEAD WE'LL HEAR ANOTHER SIDE OF JASON MORAN WITH HIS FREEWHEELING QUARTET, "BANDWAGON."

NEXT TIME YOU FIND YOURSELF TELLING SOMEONE ABOUT JASON MORAN, REMEMBER YOU CAN SHARE THIS PROGRAM OR HEAR IT ANYTIME AT J A L C DOT ORG SLASH RADIO.

WHILE YOU'RE THERE, CHECK OUT THE SCHEDULE FOR OUR NEW SEASON, INCLUDING LIVE PERFORMANCES AT THE HOUSE OF SWING AND BROADCASTS FROM OUR ARCHIVES.

BRING HOME THE SWING -- JUST CLICK TO J A L C DOT ORG IT'S JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER. I'M ED BRADLEY.

19) :60 Music window

20) Music: Bandwagon (under)

21) Bradley:

WITH HIS QUARTET CALLED "BANDWAGON" JASON MORAN ORIENTS HIS MUSIC IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION.

22) Vox: Jason Moran

"It's me being from Houston, my family being from Louisiana and from Texas..."

23) Bradley:

JASON MORAN

24) Vox: Jason Moran

"It's me being in New York almost calling myself a New Yorker. And saying wow, I still love Texas. I still love where I grew up. I still love my neighborhood, Third Ward, Houston. It is about all of that. It is about how you use history. So it just kind of always recurs in my music. // How do you use history therapeutically?"

25) Music:

25a) Moran montage starts w/ his Vox:

"That is my Texas sound. In the age of the eighties, things started to shift. Sampling was here, the internet came, the computer came. So, the Texas computer addict who plays piano sounds maybe like me."

26) Bradley

THOUGH MORAN IS A PIANIST, TO OPEN MANY OF HIS COMPOSITIONS FOR BANDWAGON, HE USES HIS COMPUTER TO CRAFT SOUNDSCAPES OR RHYTHMS FROM CARVED UP BITS OF MUSIC AND MEDIA.

FROM THE JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER'S ROSE HALL, JASON MORAN AND BANDWAGON, THIS ONE IS CALLED "JUMP UP."

27) Music Jump Up 6:55

28) Music: Out Front 9:00

29) Bradley:

"OUT FRONT." PIANIST JASON MORAN WITH HIS GROUP BAND WAGON. THAT'S MARVIN SEWELL PLAYING GUITAR. TARUS MATEEN ON BASS AND THE DRUMMER NASHEET WAITS. TO BRING OUR SET TO AN END, BANDWAGON COVERS A CLASSIC BY THE LATE BLUESMAN ALBERT KING. "I'LL PLAY THE BLUES."

Alt: I'LL PLAY THE BLUES FOR YOU.

29) Music I'll Play the Blues 10:00

30) Bradley:

"I'LL PLAY THE BLUES." PIANIST JASON MORAN AND BANDWAGON. MARVIN SEWELL, GUITAR. TARUS MATEEN BASS. NASHEET WAITS PLAYED DRUMS – AT JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER'S ROSE HALL.

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER IS PRODUCED AT MURRAY STREET BY OUR WRITER DAVID GOREN AND EDITOR STEVE RATHE -- WITH ASSISTANCE FROM SIMON RENTNER.

Bradley: (continues)

THE GREG OSBY, JASON MORAN DUET RECORDINGS WERE MADE BY EDWARD HABER, MIKE DEMARK AND GEORGE WELLINGTON AT THE STANLEY KAPLAN PENTHOUSE.

BANDWAGON WAS RECORDED AT ROSE HALL BY SAUNDRA PALMER GRASSI WITH CHRIS HERLES, AND RICK ECKERLEY.

THANKS TO MATTHEW PAYNE, ROBERT AULD, AND THE RADIO FOUNDATION. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER IS KATHERINE BROWN. THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR IS WYNTON MARSALIS.

IF YOU ENJOYED THIS PROGRAM, BRING HOME THE SWING
CLICK TO [JALC DOT ORG](http://JALC.DOT.ORG)

I'M ED BRADLEY.