

Earth People

In March 2001, a group of multi-talented musicians and friends premiered *Waking the Living*, a television broadcast performance, and the free-form music group Earth People was born. Deeply rooted in almost every major musical tradition, ancient and modern, the members of Earth People have combined to form the vanguard of the modern avant-garde.

Earth People's music constantly evolves, taking a new form and direction with every "cosmic offering." They have been dubbed "local legends" in New York City, and *All About Jazz New York* has praised their latest release, *Now Is Rising*; "What a CD! In this era of war and strife, Earth People stands as a shining example of the beauty and harmony human beings are capable of creating." *Sky Readers*, their last release was described as "a full throttle adventure ... the *new new* music, an up-to-date message from jazz avant-garde: the music is alive and well, and Earth People is one of its strongest contributors." Musical boundaries are crossed with unprejudiced ease: Jazz, Funk, World Music, Rock, Electronic, Free, Classical and the unclassifiable.

At the core of Earth People is André Martinez (former Cecil Taylor collaborator on drums and percussion), Doug Principato (guitars, vocals & synthesizers) and Jason Candler (saxophones and guitar). These three musicians are the chief composers, arrangers and administrators for the group. Like the planet from which they take their name, Earth People's core is surrounded by the hot magma of three main players ... Sabir Mateen on multi-reeds, François Grillot on contra-bass, and Mark Hennen on grand piano & synthesizers. Elliott Levin (saxophone, flute, & poetry), Karen Borca (bassoon), M (vocals and incantations) and DJ Firehorse (electronics) have also been major contributors.

Calm feelings and mutual admiration prevail among the group. An atmosphere of trust and artistic freedom allows members to travel with the spirit of the music and create a sound that is pure of heart and truly adventurous.

Most compositions begin with preconceived themes that are merely seeds. Rehearsed among the core members, pieces are then presented to the band, who telepathically take it to the next level. "Everyone gets a chance to shine as different combinations of players weave their wares, ascending and submerging." The final product often leaves the players themselves astonished and wondering, "Is this what it's like to participate in a Santeria or Voodoo ceremony? Perhaps like the initiates in a ritual rite, seemingly oblivious to the phenomena that overcome them ... *when the Gods descend upon them.*" Salvador Dali stated what became Earth People's motto, "If you understand your painting before hand, you might as well not paint it."

On many occasions Earth People has invited musicians who share their talent and their spirit to contribute, layer by layer, to an ever expanding musical vision. Fellow travelers on this journey have included Gunter Hampel, Roy Campbell, Rashid Bakr, Raphe Malik, Rosie Hertlein, Kali Fasteau, Daniel Carter, Matt Lavelle, Ricardo Solis, Dan Gaydos, Gary Miles, and Elliot Levin.

Earth People continues to create a truly authentic voice, breaking new ground with each project. An organic metamorphosis occurs with every composition, imbued with a touch of the sacred. Earth People plays music that is inspirational and timeless, capturing the soul of the moment and the spirit of all people, young and old.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing ever has." - Margaret Mead

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Available Recordings

“Now Is Rising” (UV 004) Recorded in August 2004 at the institute in NYC, this landmark CD almost never saw the light of day. Caught between bureaucratic nightmares and student protests, Earth People prevailed. Released October 14, 2005, *Now Is Rising* is rapidly receiving high critical acclaim from both fans and reviewers. It features 10 musicians appearing at different degrees throughout the journey. This first pressing is a limited collector’s edition of only 250 copies. Track Listing: *Red Clay / small distraction, mass confusion / Now Is Rising / M Train Samba / Time To Vote! / Sweet Peas / Draft Dodger*

“Sky Readers” (UV003) Recorded 4-30-03 at Walker Stage NYC, Earth People’s last release on Undivided Vision features a seven piece band. Released March 14, 2004, this third “cosmic offering” received rave reviews. Track Listing: *Magical Flower (Horus The Red Travels Backwards) / It’s That Simple*

“Simple ... Isn’t It??” (UV002) Released March 23, 2003 by Undivided Vision Records. The critically acclaimed second CD featuring a nine piece band was recorded at Peter Karl Studio, Brooklyn, NY. Track Listing: *Birthright / Bojangles / Simple...Isn’t It?? / Breaking The Malaise*

“Waking the Living” (UV001) Released 2002 by Undivided Vision Records. The debut CD was recorded at CTV Studios in Staten Island, NY and features a thirteen piece band. The CD comes in a deluxe package with a double sided full color poster! Track Listing: *Earth People expressions in five episodes: 1.invocation, 2.initiation, 3.journey, 4.arrival, 5. transcendence of metamorphosis / Don’t Think About It (http://?)*

All CD’s are distributed through North Country/Cadence.

What’s Next

Earth People recorded at LOHO studios in New York City for their upcoming release, “*Dagaz – Breakthrough Transformation Day*”. These monumental sessions yielded over 10 hours of music and feature an eight piece band with guest poets.

Earth People will also soon release the explosive live recording from The FusionArts Museum (3-14-04) which is tentatively titled “*@#\$\$Bang! from NYC.*” With reinterpretation of old compositions and introducing a few new ones, the bands performance is stellar.

Earth People continue working on a new studio project, “*El Monte - Amongst the Wizards*”, emphasizing percussion and utilizing world beats as the foundation of the music; an exploration of cultures. Watch for it and be prepared to dance!

A Special Edition DVD of “*Waking The Living*” in 5.1 DTS surround sound, and three live Big Band Recordings from CBGB’s are also scheduled for future release.

Booking & Contact information:

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