



TANGRIA JAZZ GROUP

Sheryl Mebane - Composer, Drummer, Leader

"The trio sounds excellent. I like the playing here all around. The solo piano intro is particularly impressive and leads well into the body of the track. Drums and bass provide wonderfully supple support and interplay from there on out. Great drum fills at the climax of the solo sections. To my ears, the track sounds suitable for broadcast pitching - I think (the track "Money Time") could do well, for ex., on KKJZ (88.1 FM Long Beach, one of the country's premier jazz stations)."

~TAXI A&R

The Tangria Jazz Group is acclaimed as one of the up and coming jewels of the Bay Area jazz scene. This group's unique blend of fire, intensity and sensitivity sets them apart, moving audiences to new heights and drawing them into the closest confines of intimacy. Formed in the spring of 1997, the Tangria Jazz Group has developed a rich, captivating sound that brings new contributions to bear upon the genres of Latin and straight-ahead jazz.

Each player brings an individual style to the group, always keeping Tangria's sound interesting and dynamic. Their influences range from Ellington to Jobim, from Miles Davis to Joe Henderson. Simon Rochester on Rhodes piano draws upon the intricate and lush contributions left by Herbie Hancock and Bill Evans; the intensity, explosiveness and melodic treatments of Tony Williams and Joe Morello are apparent in drummer Sheryl Mebane's playing; and the melodic and soulful contributions of bass players Dave Holland and Charlie Haden are brought forth in Justin Hellman's playing. Honoring their influences, Tangria's fresh, inventive expression reveals a unique identity, especially in their original compositions.

Their expressive music is an important addition to the San Francisco jazz community and is rapidly finding a place in the hearts of jazz aficionados throughout the U.S., Canada and internationally. After completing a successful radio campaign and embarking on a national press campaign, Tangria Jazz Group is excited to air their blend of originality and fire.

Players' Bios:

Sheryl Mebane plays with inventive Bay Area and North Carolina bands. To read about her jazz novel, *Lady Bird*, and her postdoctoral research at UC Berkeley in environmental chemistry education and action, see www.geocities.com/sherylmebane.

Justin Hellman has a bachelor's degree in music from UC Berkeley. He has played alongside Bay Area greats at countless venues.

Simon Rochester, playing professionally since age 15, has played notable Bay Area clubs and has appeared on three albums spanning 10 years with the funk band !Tang. Simon routinely plays with top musicians and does physics research at UC Berkeley.



www.tangria.net

Media Contact:

Kari Gaffney, Publicist

P.O. Box 436

Evans, GA. 30809

706.294.9996

706.210.9453 fax

karionprod@knology.net

www.karigaffney.com



TANGRIA JAZZ GROUP

Mebane's Eleven, Tunes for Two

Tangria has compiled an impressive host of musicians to explore seven original compositions and two standards. Tangria presents a wide variety of musical emotions and styles that are creative and musically rewarding.

Pianist **Simon Rochester's** playing is rooted in a cross pollination of Keith Jarrett's fluidity and storytelling combined with Chick Corea's clearly articulated single lines from the *Now He Sings; Now He Sobs* era.

Drummer **Sheryl Mebane's** rare keen sensitivity allows her to listen to and play-off others in an almost telepathic way, responding to them with a style that keeps the groove going while providing energy and forward motion in the music. Mebane continues to push the boundaries of creativity at the drum set and with the compositional pen, devoted to preserving the heritage of jazz while perpetuating the highest standards in original compositions in jazz today.

The telepathic interplay is apparent between bassist **Justin Hellman** and Sheryl Mebane. From the first note of *Mebane's Eleven: Tune for Two*, the listener flows through the selections with musical ease and a deep sense of groove.

Mebane's Eleven, Tunes for Two explores many facets of Tangria. Intimate & playful takes on "Money Time" both exemplify a multiplicity of Tangria's moods and highlight the pair motif. On Warm's 2nd version and beyond, guest artists move Tangria into new soundscapes.

The newest creation, "Gemini" (an interlude) features a range of percussive voices and pulses. Continuing with pairs, the lush jazz waltz "Ethan's Song" is a great tune to share with someone special. A lively version of "Teach Yourself to Live Elsewhere" echoes its languid twin from Tangria's freshman release, *Songs from Lady Bird*. Beloved standards "Solar" and funky "Freedom Jazz Dance" honor Tangria's muses. Reactions, inspired by molecules from Sheryl's doctoral studies, & the double-metered "Breathe Easy" complete the album.



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www.karionpresskits.com



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