Collocutor

New Jazz This Week: Collocutor, Wayne Horvitz, Kronomorfic and More

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There are several albums here making late claims to be included on a Best of 2014 list. It's sort of a stunning collection of music. The albums that I *couldn't* get to were pretty damn strong, too, which should give some indication of what did make the cut this week. Seriously, let's begin...

Collocutor, *Instead*: Outstanding debut from saxophonist Tamar Osborn, whose septet concocts an absolutely brilliant bland of modern jazz, modal & spiritual jazz forms and a variety of Eastern and Afro-Jazz influences. These are songs that give every indication of depth and substance, yet are supremely catchy and incite the compulsion to dance. A thrilling late-season contender to Best of 2014 lists. Joining Osborn are Josephine Davis on tenor sax, Simon Finch on trumpet, Marco Piccioni on guitar, Suman Joshi on bass, Afla Sackey on djembe and Ghanian shakers, and Maurizio Ravalico on percussion. **Pick of the Week.**

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Wayne Horvitz, *At the Reception*: Fantastic set from Horvitz's expanded ensemble, the Royal Room Collective Music Ensemble, performing Horvitz compositions that are re-arranged on the fly... a sort of improvisation by Madlib approach, where anything goes within a loose, but sturdy structure. Horvitz classics like "A Walk in the Rain," "Sweeter Than the Day," and "Prepaid Funeral" retain his curious songwriting style while allowing a traditional big band sound to bloom from its seed. The impact Horvitz has had on the Pacific-Northwest scene since his move from NYC can be heard on a number of recordings of the new generation of local jazz musicians... this recording from this ensemble only further cements that claim in place. **Highly Recommended.**

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