

Sam Sherry and Ursa Major

Echoes of *The Prophet*

This is the best kind of jazz. Gripping vocals, moving lyrics and complex yet accessible songs are brought to life by nationally-known artists at their best. The result: Music of substance that is easy to hear -- *Echoes of The Prophet*.

Over the course of a decade double-bassist and composer Sam Sherry crafted a suite of songs drawn from Kahlil Gibran's touchstone work, *The Prophet*. Known and loved by millions, Gibran's book became an icon around the globe for its reminders of the spiritual aspects of everyday life. Sherry's music -- endorsed by the Gibran National Trust of Beirut, Lebanon -- takes up the monumental challenge of bringing Gibran's writing forward to the state of acoustic jazz today.

As Sherry puts it, "These are great musicians who will thrill you whenever they play. They rose to the chance to celebrate Gibran's message: 'Don't be afraid to look deeply at what each moment has to offer.' That outlook is exactly what jazz is all about."

With detailed layers of instrumentation fronted by Chris Humphrey's trademark voice, *Echoes of The Prophet* combines the smarts of Dave Holland with the comfort of Nora Jones. This is an album appealing to jazz, folk, and pop fans alike. Imagine a sound inspired by influences as diverse as Cream and Coltrane, Weather Report and Woody Shaw, and the range of Sherry's music begins to show.

The deep musical connections within the band show the fruit of effort over time. Most of the players have known each other, and worked with Sherry, for years. And what link could be stronger than that between father and son? Dylan Sherry was only fourteen when he made his recording debut playing on "This Message Is For You."

Here is an album which aims high and delivers time after time. This is a disc you will leave in the player for months. This is the music of Portland, Maine's Sam Sherry.

Advance Praise for *Echoes of The Prophet*:

"A major statement that borrows from a literary master and takes his words and us all to another level." -- S. Feeney, UpBeat Magazine

"Imaginative, creative, & original are words to describe this CD. . . . There's nothing superficial here; rather, music that can rejuvenate one's spirit for something original." -- George W. Carroll, The Musicians' Ombudsman

"This group takes it to the limit. This is an excellent ensemble . . . 4 Stars." -- John W. Gilbert, EJazzReview.com

Distributed By:

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The Performers:

Bill Pierce, tenor saxophone -- Jazz Messengers, Tony Williams, Kevin Eubanks. Sunnyside recording artist

Chris Humphrey, vocals -- Clark Terry, Matt Wilson. Courtesy of Cadence/CIMP

Scott Reeves, alto flugelhorn -- Dave Liebman, Ron Carter, John Patitucci
Courtesy of Creative Jazz Records

Mark Kleinhaut, guitar -- Bobby Watson, Tiger Okoshi. Courtesy of Invisible Music

Sam Sherry, double-bass and composer

Billy Arnold, drums - Kenny Burrell, Teddy Wilson, Junior Walker

and with

Tim O'Dell, alto and soprano saxophone
Courtesy of Southport Records

Dylan Sherry, tenor saxophone
Jan Van Voorst Van Beest, drums

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