

Blunt Object

Jan 2010

The emergence in 2008 of a new large ensemble in Toronto was brought about by trombonist and composer Robin Jessome. Comprised mostly of University of Toronto jazz alumni, the group's repertoire was built on compositions by Carla Bley, and is constantly expanding to include more original music from within the ensemble.

The unique instrumentation and innovative compositions and arrangements made for an exciting and creative approach; drawing on diverse influences in addition to Carla Bley such as Lester Bowie's *Brass Fantasy*, *Orange Then Blue*, *Django Bates*, Björk, Charles Mingus, *Either/Orchestra*, *Thelonious Monk*, *ICP Orchestra* and Tom Waits.

These influences, along with Robin Jessome's original compositions and arrangements have shaped the ensemble's distinctive sound – one whose personality always maintains a sense of interaction, energy and individuality.

Photo by Cindy Salazar © 2009

Continuing to perform through 2010 and planning to soon record a debut album, this exciting ensemble is fast becoming a mainstay in the Toronto jazz scene.

CURRENT MEMBERS:

Anthony Rinaldi, Ben Dietschi, Gordon Hyland (WOODWINDS); Natalie Robinson, Jesse Malone (TRUMPET); Robin Jessome, Heather Segger (TROMBONE); Eric Probst (TUBA); Tom Van Seters (PIANO); Mark Godfrey (BASS); Mark Segger (DRUMS).

