

GOING FOR ADDS: **June 6th, 2025**
ARTIST/BAND: **Freedom Art Quartet**
TITLE: **First Dance**
LABEL: **Freedom Art Records**
CATALOG #: **F.A.R. – 52965**
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FILE: **Jazz**

and compositional structure is a breath of fresh air needed to represent today's music scene. "Our purpose is to explore and create in depth, the limitless dimensions of the art form."

The release of the Freedom Art Quartet's "Spirits Awake" brought the group critical acclaim; Jeff Stockton of All About Jazz said, "Spirits Awake captures the listener's interest, holds that interest with creativity and intensity, then rewards it with excitement generated by musical variety and masterly expressiveness."

Greg Buium from down beat pronounced; "This debut disc from New York's Freedom Art Quartet swings from Monkish games to Ornette Coleman and Horace Silver with admirable proficiency."

John Simmons from the New York times wrote; "If I didn't know better, I'd think that this was some long-lost session from the great Blue Note catalogue of the sixties. A solid jazz date from another of NY's best kept secrets."

The F.A.Q. have performed in various clubs, art galleries, and colleges at home and abroad. Festivals include: The Heineken Jazz Festival, The Fire Wall festival, the UVA Jazz Festival & most recently the 2022 Hamptons Jazz Festival. Clubs include; Smalls, Knitting Factory, Jazz Standard among others.

Throughout the years, many innovative artists have played within the core group; Ornette Coleman, Fred Hopkins, Ravi Coltrane, J.D. Parren, Abraham Burton, Jaribu Shahid, Brad Jones, Andy McCloud, Roy Campbell, Alex Harding, Jay Collins, and Patience Higgins, among others.

Personnel:



Lloyd Haber- Multiple Percussion: A student of the late great Ed Blackwell. Currently the music director at Francis Lewis High School in Queens, N.Y. Lloyd Has performed/recorded with; Ornette Coleman, Don Cherry, Bob Stewart, Craig Harris, Louis Hayes, Kalaparusha McIntyre, Charli Persip, Warren Smith, Donald Smith, and Ron Burton among others. Performances at Symphony Space and Aaron Davis Hall. Percussion ensemble clinics at Sam Ash Music and the Long Island Drum Center. Off-Bdwy musical, Songs for the New World. Percussion on the Oscar nominated film, Judas and the Black Messiah.

Available: Apple Store, Spotify, Amazon

FREEDOM ART QUARTET



FIRST DANCE

TRACKS:

1. Stop Watch 3:48
2. U. S. Blues Inc. 4:42
3. Counterbalance 4:17
4. Interpretation 4:65
5. Chattermouth 5:46
6. Song For The Old Ones 12:49
7. Nature Of The Past 2:51
8. First Dance 5:20

Recorded August 23rd & 24th, 2023.

Bayside Studios, Long Beach NY

Engineer: Omar Kabir

Produced & Mixed by: Lloyd Haber & Omar Kabir

All Songs by Lloyd Haber except Nature Of The Past by
Lloyd Haber & Omar Kabir

Cover Painting by Charles Haber

Design by Lloyd Haber

Freedom Art Quartet *A melodic expression in
improvised music.*

Fronted by founding members; Percussionist/Composer
Lloyd Haber and Multi Wind Player Omar Kabir who
founded the group in 1991. The Groups diverse ethnic



Omar Kabir - Trumpet, Low Brass, Conch, and Didgeridoo: Alumnus of NC School of the Arts, and Manha Jan School of Music. Won first place at Show Time at the Apollo.

Recorded and/or Performing with David Murray Octet & Big Band, Herbie Mann, Cecil Taylor Big Band, the Jimmy Heath Big Band, Charlie Haden's Liberation Orchestra, Hugh Ragin, William Cepeda, and Stanley Jorden. Omar was an original cast member of Fame: the musical and Music Director with Cirque du Soleil.



Alfredo Colon- Woodwinds: A New York City native born to immigrant parents from the Dominican Republic, Alfredo grew up in Washington Heights where he studied under Lee Konitz while

receiving a BFA in Jazz performance at City College of New York. The saxophonist has performed alongside notable musicians such as Jamaaladeen Tacuma, Nels Cline, Chad Edward Taylor, Gene Lake, Dr. Lonnie Smith, and American Idol Finalist Qaasim Middleton. Colon was awarded the Jazz Coalition Commission Fund Grant in early 2020. His piece 'A Witch Gets Married' premiered online in October 2020.



Adam Lane- Bass: Lane studied composition at Wesleyan University with Anthony Braxton, and at California Institute of the Arts with Wadada Leo Smith. In 1996 he received a Paternings Scholarship

for study at the Darmstadt School for New Music where he studied double bass with Steffano Scodanibbio, and attended master classes in composition with Karlheinz Stockhausen. As a player, Adam has contributed to important recordings by artist such as John Tchicai and Tom Waits.

The Freedom Art Quartet: First Dance – Songs

1. Stop Watch 3:48 - Stopwatch; an up-tempo song, which starts off with a Charleston, New Orleans rhythm on the drums, soon followed by an accompanying bass line. The trumpet and sax come in with a call and response melody and play the bridge in unison. Trumpet and saxophone take solo's followed by the drums, melody out.

2. U.S. Blues Inc. 4:42 - U.S. Blues; a medium swing blues in odd meters, alternating

between 5 & 6. The song starts off with a bass intro followed by a melody that invokes the turbulent times we are living in. The trumpet and sax solos play off each other in heated conversation. The song ends with a longing, bowing bass.

3. Counterbalance 4:17 - Counterbalance; an up-tempo number, starts off with trumpet and saxophone each playing a melody that plays off each other while the bass and drums swing behind them. The bridge of the song takes on a reggae feel, then back into the counterbalance.

4. Interpretation 6:45 – Interpretation is a slow blues invoking feelings of the church.

5. Chattermouth 5:46 – Chattermouth, starts off with an up-tempo melody then slows down on the bridge and back to up-tempo. Sax and trumpet take solos followed by drums and bass.

6. Song For The Old Ones 12:49 – Song For The Old; a slower tempo song with an AABA structure. The bass has the intro setting up the melody. This song brings to me feelings of those I have loved in the past, yet, are always within my heart.

7. Nature of the Past 2:51 – Nature of the Past is a meditative journey using percussive instruments such as; handpan, bells, gongs and wood block accompanied by didgeridoo and seashells.

8. First Dance 5:20 - First Dance is a hard hitting up-tempo swing with solos all around. All songs by Lloyd Haber except "Nature of the Past" by Lloyd Haber & Omar Kabir.



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