



WELCOME TO THE A-TRAIN NEWSLETTER!

It's fall, the season of change, and while leaves are turning, the air is getting crispy, and students begin to sharpen those No.2's, we here at A-Train prefer to embrace this transitional eve of Autumn with gusto! We say never-you-mind the drop in temperature and that pesky school bell...remedy the anticipation of winter by grabbing a box of popcorn and hitting the couch as we premiere a new season all our own: A Train goes to the movies!

To the delight of your eyes and ears you can now enjoy documentaries and performances of your favorite artists, from jazz legends to far off Gypsies, behind the scenes peeks at the making of musical magic. And of course we still have a whole new batch of digital releases to start putting on that holiday wish list. Put the jiffy pop in the micro, dim the lights and make it a movie night. We promise we won't try to steal your bon-bons.

- The A-Train Staff

Top News

- *NEW: Digital films! The Grizzly Man Sessions, Taraf de Haidouks, Dewey Redman and More*
- *Farewell Hector Zazou*
- *UK Guardian Names Alla Band of the Week*
- *Tour dates from Bloodkin, Larry Ochs, David Darling, Alla, and Mary Youngblood*

NEWS & REVIEWS

Hector Zazou, 60, Passes Away Shortly Before New Album

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Hector Zazou, who passed away on September 8, 2008, in his sixtieth year.



Crammed enjoyed a long, friendly and fruitful relationship with Hector since the early 1980s, releasing 10 of his albums to date. The eleventh, 'In The House Of Mirrors', is a wonderful and sadly posthumous opus which was recorded earlier this year in India, and is due for release imminently. Hector Zazou will be greatly missed.

Algerian-born French composer/producer Hector Zazou had a surprise waiting with each new record: twisted rock, neo-classical compositions, world music (from Africa to Central Asia), string quartets, pieces for wind instruments, voices or synthesizers, he's been using a wide variety of genres to create the most unexpected and subtle blends, as witnessed by a discography containing many original and often groundbreaking albums, such as *Barricades 3* (his 1976 debut), *Noir et Blanc* (the album which, way back in '83, laid the foundations for Afro-electronic fusion), *Les Nouvelles Polyphonies Corses* (which earned him a "Victoire de la Musique" -the French Grammy- in 1992), *Songs From The Cold Seas* (1994, with Björk, Suzanne Vega, Siouxsie...), *Lights In The Dark* (1998, with Brendan Perry,

Ryuichi Sakamoto, Peter Gabriel...) and about fifteen others, which all earned him a reputation of excellence worldwide.

Admired and respected by his peers, Hector Zazou has collaborated with an amazing collection of singers and musicians, including Jon Hassell, Ryuichi Sakamoto, Manu Dibango, John Cale, Harold Budd, David Sylvian, Khaled, Lisa Gerrard, Suzanne Vega, Björk, Peter Gabriel, Brian Eno, Peter Buck, Jane Birkin, Lisa Germano, Laurie Anderson, Asia Argento and Gerard Depardieu. He was also an in-demand producer, and worked a.o. with Tibetan vocalist Yung Chen Lhamo and Uzbek singer Sevara Nazarkhan (both for Real World)

For more information on Hector Zazou and his latest release "In the House of Mirrors" please visit www.crammed.be.

<http://www.crammed.be>

Wadada Leo Smith wins FONT Award



Festival of New Trumpet Music honors Wadada Leo Smith this year with their first award of recognition: for his visionary musical and cultural analysis, for his revolutionary approach to composition, and for his brilliant brass playing which over the course of forty years has truly changed the playing field.

<http://www.fontmusic.org>

Alla: Band of the Week in UK Guardian

"This lot are a trio of Mexican-Americans from Chicago who ally their love of bossa nova, easy listening and lounge pop to stranger, more experimental sounds and textures... *Es Tiempo* sounds like a million dollars, from the lavish Bacharach-goes-disco of *Un Dia Otra Noche* to the smörgåsbord of cosmic Latino, sampladelic flamenco, lush acoustica, tribal muzak and jazzy drones found elsewhere on this terrific record. Tall and tanned and young and lovely. These girls and boys are not from Ipanema; nevertheless, the spirits of Astrud Gilberto, João Gilberto and Stan Getz live on in this outfit."

<http://www.guardian.co.uk>

New Bloodkin Album Nearing Completion

Bloodkin's new record "Baby They Told Us We Would Rise Again" was recently mastered at David Barbe's studio and is being slated for release in early 2009. See below for tour dates

"Few local sweat-and smoke-preserved rock & roll bands have the staying power of Bloodkin. Their ATHFEST Georgia Theatre show should be a "don't miss" for bleary eyed after midnighters. The complete Bloodkin and Hutchens catalog was recently re-released on i-Tunes, so you can now obtain classics like *Creeperweed* and *Out of States Plates* with functioning plastic and the click of a button."
- Flagpole Magazine

<http://www.myspace.com/bloodkinmusic>

FILMS



The Continuing Adventures of Taraf Haïdouks

At last, here's the ultimate DVD by the finest, wildest & most soulful of Balkan Gypsy bands- "The best Gypsy band in the world", as described in the UK's *The Independent*. Ever since their first visit to western Europe back in 1991, Taraf de Haïdouks have been considered the epitome of Gypsy music's fabulous vitality.

Included in the extensive coverage of their work are various aspects of the band's outstanding history and talents, featuring *NO MAN IS A PROPHET IN HIS OWN LAND*, directed by Elsa Dahmani. In order to record their 4th album *Band Of Gypsies*, Taraf organized two special concerts in Bucharest, in December 2000. Koçani Orkestar and other Gypsy musicians from several Balkan countries were invited to join, sparking the interest and delight of revered French/Gypsy filmmaker Tony Gatlif, who decided to document the event. He suffered a heart attack only some days prior to the concert, and entrusted the project to his daughter Elsa Dahmani (who was no more than 22 at the time). Aided by a film crew of 10, she wrote and directed this lovely film which not only captured the Taraf during these live recordings, but also in their village of Clejani, where most of them still reside.



In the Edges - The Grizzly Man Sessions

Not only is *In the Edges: The Grizzly Man Sessions* a very well shot and compiled piece, but the process of scoring the film proves to be a fascinating one. Rather than commission a score in the traditional manner, director Werner Herzog brought in guitarists supreme Richard Thompson and Henry Kaiser, and asked them and their fellow musicians

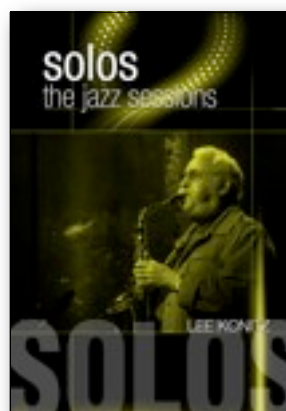
to essentially improvise a soundtrack to the film, to match its mood with music that would be both soulful and raw, melancholic and yet also vibrant. He wanted, in essence, the sort of score that Treadwell himself might have chosen had he had the chance to match music to his footage. Just watching the musicians at work is a joy in itself, and the sessions are nicely intercut with casual interviews with Herzog in the studio, who says in all earnest that he would willingly give ten years of his life to be able to play a musical instrument to the standard

being demonstrated here. Featuring Werner Herzog, Henry Kaiser, Richard Thompson, Jim O'Rourke, Danielle DeGruttola, Damon Smith and John Hanes.



Dewey Time - The Sound of a Giant

As the noted jazz historian Stanley Crouch so aptly put it, "when saxophonist Dewey Redman plays, smoke and flames shoot out of his bell" Daniel Berman's often-tender film examines a highly respected, highly musical and highly imaginative improviser, who has influenced a legion of today's regarded musicians. One of the last of the generation to emerge from the culture and music of the segregated/depression era south, Redman had a lasting impression on musicians and audiences around the world. Featured interviews include Joe Lovano, Michael Brecker, Charlie Haden, Stanley Crouch, and, of course, Dewey's famous saxophonist son, Joshua Redman.



Solos - The Jazz Sessions

Solos: The Jazz Sessions spotlights unaccompanied performances by some of the legends and bright young stars of the jazz world. Designed and recorded specifically for television, SOLOS offers viewers front row seats for an intimate and unique jazz experience. Shot in stunning HDTV with multiple moving cameras and a medley of elegant cinematic lighting, SOLOS showcases an exciting and dynamic variety of jazz styles - from the blues and boogie-woogie to bebop and the experimental. Recorded on location at the spectacular Berkeley Church in Toronto, Canada, each program features complete musical pieces, insightful interviews, and behind-the-scenes footage.

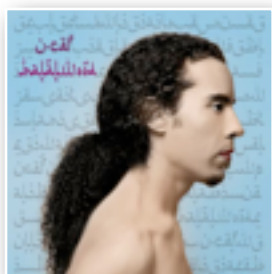
Series Artists:

James Blood Ulmer
Andrew Hill
John Abercrombie
Lee Konitz
Mathew Shipp

NEW RELEASES

**The Ravished Bride*****Koçani Orkestar***

Here's the long-awaited new album by the funkier Balkan band, the one and only Koçani Orkestar. The Ravished Bride is undoubtedly their strongest album so far: the power and excitement of the band's explosive live performances is masterfully translated, and the arrangements are more inventive than ever. Their powerful rhythm section, their passionate soloists, and the sheer funkiness of their beats would lead any audience to break into dance!

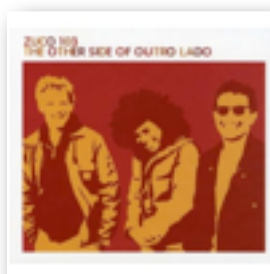
**U-CEF feat. Damon Albarns*****Halalwood***

Morocco's first and foremost digitalizer delivers his debut album for Crammed. 'Halalwood' is a tour-de-force which puts gnawa music, dub, sinuous classic Arabic arrangements for qanun, flute & violins, electronic beats, MCs, big drums and crunchy rock guitars into a giant blender to produce something fresh and original. U-Cef has all the legitimacy and inspiration needed to navigate between cultures without any prejudice, disrespect or fear. Born and raised in Rabat, he absorbed much of his native Morocco's multiple traditions before moving first to New York and then to London, immersing himself along the way in the Western world's electronic & rock scenes. His first CD 'Halalium' (2001) was a milestone in Moroccan urban dance music, and has inspired a whole generation of rappers, b-boys and pro-tools adventurers, from Tangiers to Taroudant and Melila to Marrakech.

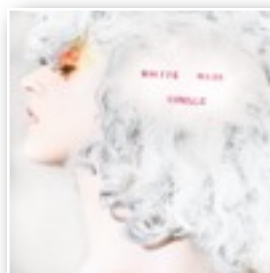
**Hector Zazou and Swara*****In the House of Mirrors***

Hector Zazou invites four outstanding instrumentalists from India and Uzbekistan to step into a virtual hall of mirrors, in which sound is reflected from one note to another: an aural equivalent of a famous scene

in Orson Welles' *The Lady From Shanghai*. Through its use of these reflection systems, "In The House Of Mirrors" might also be viewed as a discreet homage to the music produced in the '70s by the likes of Terry Riley and Fripp & Eno, translated for the first time into a classical Asian environment.

**Zuco 103*****The Other Side of Outro Lado***

Ever since the release of their 'Outro Lado' album, Zuco 103 have been acclaimed as the heralds of electro/Brazilian fusion. Their brilliant mix of live+electronic rhythms, fronted by the extraordinary voice and presence of Lilian Vieira, have been setting audiences on fire across Europe. The Other Side of Outro Lado is an interlude album featuring re-readings of tracks from their first album by an interesting collection of remixes from the UK, France and Brazil. Includes 5 more tracks not previously available in the US.

**Cibelle*****White Hair EP***

The multi-talented marvel Cibelle is back with the White Hair EP - her first full release containing brand-new material since last year's much-loved *The Shine Of Dried Electric Leaves* album. Complementing the title track - a gorgeous five-minute sliver of glitch-folk that, from simple keyboard and vocal-led beginnings, swells to a thing of gentle majesty with brass, guitar, banjo and delicate electronics all lovingly drizzled atop - there are three beautifully rendered remixes by some honored guests including No Kids, Lykkemosen and Kwes..

**Various Artists*****Arriba La Cumbia!***

Yes it's that time: the cumbia has arrived in full force! This much-maligned musical style from Colombia, often overshadowed by its latin siblings of salsa, mambo and

NEW RELEASES

merengue amongst others is finally spreading its wings and receiving the attention and praise it truly deserves.

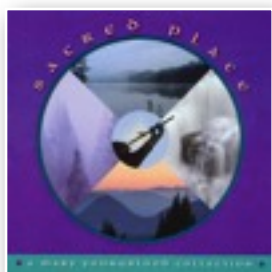


Bebel Gilberto

Sem Contenção Remixes

"For those who can't get enough of Gilberto, this recording is big excitement. Gilberto (daughter of Brazilian songwriter Joao Gilberto) is an obvious candidate for dance-floor remixes. For the open-minded, it's another dimension to the deli-

cious Bebel. -Globe & Mail (Toronto)



Mary Youngblood Compilation

Sacred Place

With rich vibrato and notes that melt into your heart, Mary Youngblood takes the artistry of Native American flute music to its highest level. Her song writing brings forth some of the sweetest original melodies ever performed on this instru-

ment, and the collection herein showcases the most sublime.

When this two-time Grammy Award winner reflects on her life she resonates with the peaceful warrior. Both softness and strength come through in her deeply passionate music inspired by the wonders of nature. These peaceful and vibrant songs have been carefully selected to quiet the mind, relax the body, and inspire one to contemplate the Sacred Place within.



Samuel Markus and the Only Ones

New Dawn

"New Dawn presents folk-based tunes with pop-realm accessibility. Within each song are familiar folk stories, delivered with near-dangerous catchiness. These tunes

remain in the heads of their listeners, but their intelligent and narrative content makes them welcome additions to cerebral playlists. The album showcases the complexities of writing simply-in short; its hard to write a tight song that tells a ripe

story, but at the mere age of 22, Samuel Markus achieves this. From a kid just past his teenage years, this is pretty darn impressive." -PlugInMusic.com



Australian Bebop Ragas

Snakes and Ladders

Australian Bebop Ragas is a new sound on the scene, a trio of world class virtuosos taking the fundamental premise of Indian Classical Ragas, turning it inside out and transforming it in a truly innovative and unique way in

contemporary global music. Celebrating the release of their first CD, Snakes and Ladders, this extraordinary and innovative trio (featuring didjeridu maestro Stephen Kent, touchstyle fretboard pioneer Teed Rockwell, and jazz/world fusion drummer & tabla player Sameer Gupta) weaves together intriguing elements from far-flung corners of the globe to create an adventurous new musical hybrid!

Buried Treasures...Found and Not Lost

Noir Et Blanc - Hector Zazou

The album which, way back in '83, laid the foundations for Afro-electronic fusion. An unsurpassed milestone, this is a head-on collision between traditional Central African vocals and uncompromising analog electronics. Resulting from a torrid encounter between Congolese singer Bony Bikaye, Algerian-born French composer Hector Zazou and mad scientists CY1, this album was acclaimed by the international music press, has influenced scores of artists, and remains astonishingly fresh to this day.

<http://www.crammed.be/>

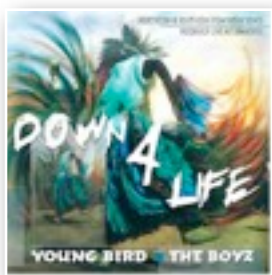
NEW RELEASES



Canyon Records

The Native American Music Awards (NAMA) has announced the nominees

for the Tenth Annual Awards and Canyon Records has received a total of 18 nominations! In addition to the exciting lineup of nominated artists, Canyon Records features it's First Nations series of Canadian based artists, along with the newest sector of Canyon Explorer series; its classical music division. For details visit Canyon Records at store.canyonrecords.com.



Young Bird and the Boyz

Down for Life

Recorded live at the annual Shakopee Mdewankanton Sioux Community Pow-Wow, The Boyz and Young Bird present their newest songs in this live recording that reveals the dynamic beauty and energy of today's pow-wow

energy of today's pow-wow



Northern Cree

Round Dance Jam

Sway and swing to the spirited round dance songs of one of Canada's finest - the Northern Cree Singers. Everyone gets up and dances when Northern Cree begins the infectious beat and rousing

melodies of this ever popular Native American social dance.



Young Bird / Northern Cree

Double Platinum

With this recording, two of pow-wow's most popular groups, are featured side by side. For the last two decades, Northern Cree from Saddle Lake, Alberta have been regarded as one of pow-wow's top

singing groups blending energetic singing with original songs. Coming from Pawnee, Oklahoma, Young Bird has been blazing their way throughout the pow-wow trail, thrilling dancers and audiences with their championship Southern-style singing.

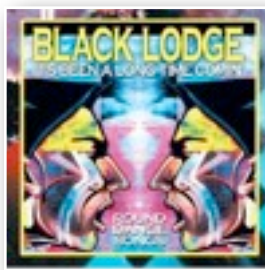


Tha Tribe

The Quiet Storm: Round Dance Songs

Tha Tribe merges tough singing with lyrics narrating love's ups and downs on their first recording of Round Dance songs. Presented as a radio show, Tha Quiet Storm is

where Rez humor and urban culture collide and Native tradition is catapulted to the future. merengue amongst others is finally spreading its wings and receiving the attention and praise it truly deserves.



Black Lodge

It's Been a Long Time Comin'

Founded by Kenny Scabby Robe of the Blackfeet Nation, the Black Lodge Singers of White Swan, Washington are one of the most respected pow-wow groups in North America. In constant demand as a

host drum at pow-wows around the United States and Canada, Black Lodge is also known for their original and lively round dance songs. A prominent Native American courting dance, round dances are occasions filled with humor and good feelings. Black Lodge sing their creative songs and keep dancers swaying to the rhythmic pulse of the hand drums with this collection of their latest round dance songs.



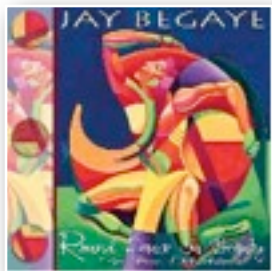
Traditional Blackfoot Owl Dance Song

Owl Dance of the Siksika Nation

A prominent social dance of the Blackfoot people, the Owl Dance is a couples dance that moves to the swaying beat of the drum and lively melodies of the singers. In the past,

Owl Dances were for courting and socializing. Performed rarely these days, the Owl Dance and its songs still inspire good feelings and camaraderie for the dancers and singers. The Siksika Nation, a division of the Blackfoot Confederacy, has been home to some of the best traditional singers of North America.

NEW RELEASES



Jay Begaye

Round Dance in Beauty

Jay Begaye's soaring vocals, rhythmic drumming and creative songs move the spirit and call people to the round dance. For the last decade, Jay has fused his Dine (Navajo) heritage with the singing style of the people of the Northern Plains, carrying his music to native and non-native people across North America. The Round Dance is a courting dance for couples, popular with Native Americans everywhere.



Jimmy Knight Jr.

Navajo Healing Songs of the Native American Church Vol. 2

Healing songs are a newer style of singing from the Native American Church (or Peyote Church) without the accompaniment of the peyote water-drum or gourd-rattle and are meant to facilitate mediation and prayer and provide comfort and peace for the singers and listeners. This recording features noted Navajo (Dine') peyote singer Jimmy Knight Jr. in this soothing collection of Navajo healing songs in the Native American Church tradition.



Randy Wood

Round Dance the Night Away

A founding member of the highly respected Northern Cree Singers, Randy Wood is known throughout North America for singing and snowmaking skills. This recording showcases Randy's artistry as he sings his original round dance songs. A popular Native American couples dance, the round dance gives men and women a chance to meet and fall in love. Randy's intimate vocals, pulsating drumming and creative songs move the spirit and invite the listener to Round Dance The Night Away.

Explorer Series Classical Titles

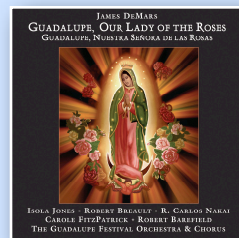
Portraits: Music For Classical Guitar - Gabriel Ayala Isola



Gabriel Ayala (Yaqui) is at the very forefront of Native American artists who are making a name for themselves as classical musicians. Gabe has performed at the Kennedy Center, Smithsonian, National Museum of the American Indian and numerous concert venues. Portraits features guitar versions of well-known classical pieces including Bach's mighty "Tocatta & Fugue in D-minor" (the organ theme from the old Phantom of the Opera) and Albeniz's "Leyenda." Portraits represents a new world of expression for Native American music.

Guadalupe, Our Lady of the Roses - Robert Breault Jones, R. Carlos Nakai, Carole FitzPatrick, Robert Barefield and The Guadalupe Festival Orchestra & Chorus

R. Carlos Nakai has been performing with symphonies for over 20 years and recently completed a performance of "Two World Concerto" with the Buffalo Philharmonic. Nakai was joined by Xavier Quijas Yxayotl as a major soloist in the world premiere recording of Guadalupe, Our Lady of the Roses. Guadalupe is based on the story of the appearance of the Virgin Mary to Mexican native Juan Diego in 1531. James DeMars composed this brilliantly colorful music drama to showcase the vocal talents of Isola Jones, Robert Breault, and Carole FitzPatrick and Robert Barefield. DeMars created special music for Nakai and Xavier that adds an infusion of Native American flavor to this modern masterpiece.



More New Releases from Canyon

Go Protect Us - Delbert "Black Fox" Pomani & Melvin Dawes Harvey

Thunder & Lightning - Southern Cree

N Action - Tha Tribe

Hours Before Dawn - Verdell Primeaux & Johnny Mike

Life Giver - Thomas Duran, Jr.

Word Up - Young Bird

Second Song... Dancer's Choice - Northern Cree

Pikuni Style - Kicking Woman Singer

TOUR INFO



DANIEL HUTCHENS/
BLOODKIN

<http://www.bloodkin.net>



LARRY OCHS

<http://www.ochs.cc/>



DAVID
DARLING

<http://www.daviddarling.com/>



ALLA

<http://www.myspace.com/estiempo>



MARY YOUNGBLOOD

<http://www.maryyoungblood.com>

Date	Venue	City
10/17/08	Smith's Olde Bar	Atlanta, GA
10/31/08	Loco's Grill	Savannah, GA
11/1/08	The Rocket Club	Asheville, NC
11/7/08	Georgia Music Hall of Fame	Macon, GA
11/8/08	Marlin's	Jackson, MI
12/31/08	Home Team BBQ	Charleston, SC

Date	Venue	City
10/18/08	Oakland Metro	Oakland, CA
10/28/08	Hammer Museum	Los Angeles, CA
10/29/08	Dizzy's	San Diego, CA
10/30/08	The Outpost	Albuquerque, NM
11/1/08	Seattle Art Museum	Seattle, WA
11/2/08	The Western Front	Vancouver, CANADA
11/20/08	Freight and Salvage	Berkeley, CA

Date	Venue	City
10/10-12/08	Stony Point Center	Stony Point, NY
10/18/08	The Gathering Room	Glastonbury, CT
10/20/08	Lensic Theater	Santa Fe, NM
10/23-25/08	Warner Theater	Torrington, CT
11/21-23/08	Center for Yoga and Health	Lennox, MA

Date	Venue	City
10/29/08	The Beat Kitchen	Chicago, IL

Date	Venue	City
10/11/08	Chapa-De Indian Health Clinic	Grass Valley, CA
1/16/08	Kirkland Performance Center	Kirkland, WA
1/31/09	The Imagination Theater	Placerville, CA