

EVOLUTIONARY JASS BAND

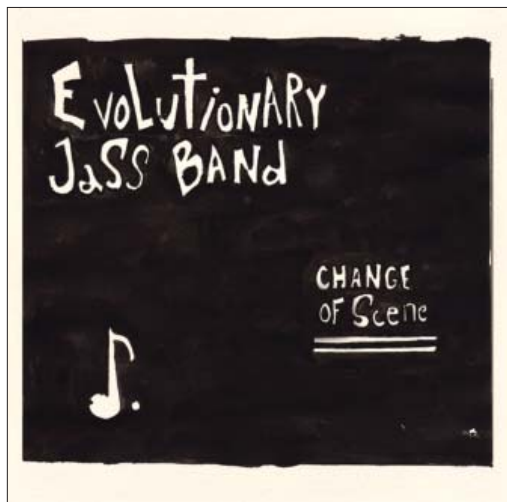
Change of Scene

CL7 CD & Digital Release

ComLib are proud to present the debut release from one of Portland's most unique and wonderful bands, the Evolutionary Jass Band. The group has slowly but steadily made a name for themselves locally for powerful and frequent performances at a wide variety of venues.

Bandleader Jeffrey Brown and drummer Michael Henrickson were longtime key members of the Portland/New York improvisatory Jackie-O-Mother-fucker. The Jass Band, in contrast to JOMF's rotating-lineup adventures and cross-genre free-wheeling, focus on the jazz idiom, and their existence is in many ways a meditation on the nature of being a working band in the age of ad-hoc collaborations and long-distance recording affairs.

Relying on a delicate balance between compositional tact and way out improvisation, the band is able to refer to a historically weighted jazz vocabulary while building on it with confidence. The group has grown to a sextet under Brown's guidance, and has brought incredible force, beauty, and raw honesty to Portland's often overly-academic improv scene. *Change of Scene* reflects the band's combinations of Ethiopian-influenced modal riffing, the built-in wobbliness of New Orleans proto-jazz and American band music, as well as more modern sonic referents like '70s afro-centric experimental soul-jazz or clangorous, driving experimental rock of the 90s. Not resting on the laurels of reference points, the band continues to record new material reflecting their intuitive approach and absolutely pure dedication to their art.



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Track List

1. Aunt Dot
2. Change of Scene
3. Philly's Frindge
4. Mercury
5. Devotion

"To its credit, the Evolutionary Jass Band pays homage to historical jazz idioms without becoming overly beholden to them." - Ron Schepper, *Textura*



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