

# PERCUSSIVE NOTES



Vibraphone Dampening

Publishing Basics

Demystifying Marching Percussion



Mix good ingredients together and simmer for a while and you get a soup of deep complexity. Mix together two longtime jazz improvisers, who have been practicing their craft and performing for decades, and you get a tasty meal for your ears! Drummer Jack Mouse and saxophonist Scott Robinson team up on this album of freely improvised duets.

Mouse's melodic approach to drumming is well suited to Robinson's unpredictable, sometimes soaring, and sometimes fierce, approach to improvisation. One of the most unique improvisations, which demonstrate the energy and creativity of this duo, is "Orcan," in which Mouse transforms his drums into muted tabla-esque thumping while Robinson creates an eerily beautiful moaning reminiscent of whale song. "Scorch" is a fiery and virtuosic display, while tunes like "Bolero Incognito" and "Fandango" are terrific examples of free jazz with undulating and unpredictable melodic and rhythmic flow, reminiscent of Ornette Coleman's music.

While this album is not necessarily a toe-tapping experience and probably won't be for everyone, free improvisers and jazz purists alike will revel in the experimental energy and improvisational skill displayed by these two seasoned pros. It is also a great opportunity for drummers to hear a stripped down instrumentation in order to study the subtleties of touch and color of Mouse's drumming. There is plenty to discover and explore, so get some headphones and dig in for a unique experience.

—John Lane