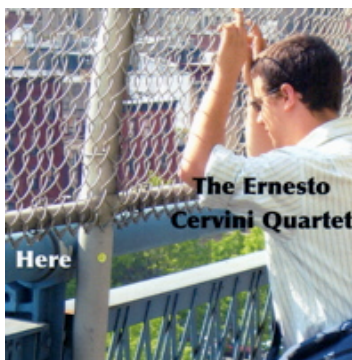


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Here – Ernesto Cervini Quartet – Independent

Prodigiously talented multi-instrumentalist Ernesto Cervini has written and arranged all of the material on this exceptional debut CD, recorded in June of last year. He has also produced the project and surrounded himself with exquisitely skilled players. The result is a symbiotic musical landscape that purposefully features each talented member of the quartet, which includes Mike Murley on soprano and tenor saxophones, Jon Maharaj on bass and the luminous Adrean Farrugia on piano. Cervini – who shines on the drums – is a composer of profound complexity and emotion. His generosity of spirit is evident throughout the CD, and the extraordinary musical communication among the quartet is clearly a case of kismet inevitability.

Lyricism and complex post-bop sensibilities are apparent throughout “Here.” One highlight is *Gramps*, which includes intricately constructed solos by Farrugia and Maharaj. The tune has a visceral melancholy, and yet also moves the quartet in areas of unbounded energy. Another stand out is *Six Seven*, which feathers Mike Murley in a particularly eloquent and moving solo. The title tune closes the set, swinging with optimistic voicings and displaying the more playful aspects of the ensemble, peppered with well-constructed and appropriate percussive statements by Cervini.

Cervini is a Toronto native who currently resides in New York City and the exhilaration of living in that great metropolis has seeped into his life and his music as evidenced by his free flowing emotion and ideas. “Here” is certainly one of the most interesting jazz recordings of 2007, and Cervini is one of our most intriguing emerging young artists.

Lesley Mitchell-Clarke