



THINK LIKE THE WAVES

GORDON GRDINA
GARY PEACOCK
PAUL MOTIAN





Like most musicians of my generation I came to know music from different genres all at once, forwards and backwards, east and west, just as likely to be listening to Miles Davis or Jim Hall as Ali Akbar Khan or Munir Bashir. This juxtaposition inspired my interest in what's going on underneath and across different styles and aesthetics, focusing on common threads and deeper purpose. Surface differences faded further and further away.

During the past few years I've formed groups that roughly fit certain genres of music that I'm interested in, from Arabic classical music to more straight-ahead jazz, usually performing solely on either guitar or oud. But I began to realize that when I intensely focused on what was happening in the music, I was getting the same experience from each ensemble, even though their aesthetics remained extremely different. In this recording I wanted to bring these influences together into a unified statement more in line with this experience. I'm really happy with the result and hope that this search for the deeper essence of the music is evident to the listener.

Some of the music was written specifically for the record, and other pieces that I could hear Paul and Gary playing on were borrowed from my other ensembles.



Although neither of them has recorded in an oud trio before, I knew that Gary was interested in Arabic music and that Paul's sound, textures, and use of space were all significantly influenced by listening to Armenian folk music as a child.

I've had the privilege of studying with Gary for the past five years and I don't know anyone else who understands music the way he does. He's absolutely unique. He's able to get to the intellectual, spiritual and emotional heart of the music immediately. This is apparent as soon as he touches the instrument. His sound and intensity are always right there engaging the listener and telling a story.

I've been a huge fan of Paul's since I was a teenager, first listening to him with Keith Jarrett and Paul Bley and then in his own bands. I was always struck by his ability to say so much with so little – nothing ever wasted or overdone. He was always purely about the music. As such he's been a huge influence on me as a composer, improviser, and most of all as a listener. He's always listening so intensely, letting whatever's supposed to happen next happen.



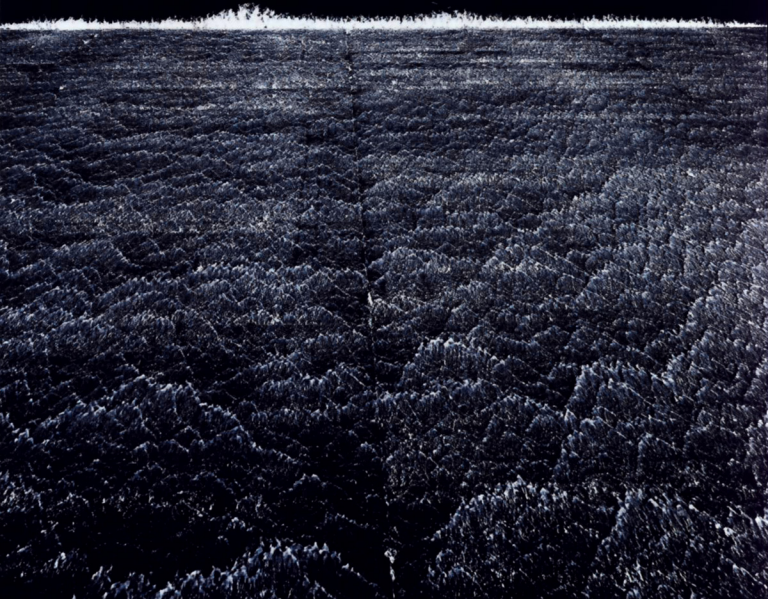
Before the sessions I thought I knew how these songs were going to develop and how they'd feel, but in the end it turned out very different and way better. Having Paul Motian and Gary Peacock involved in this recording has been an absolute pleasure. They are the freest, most honest and selfless musicians I've ever met.

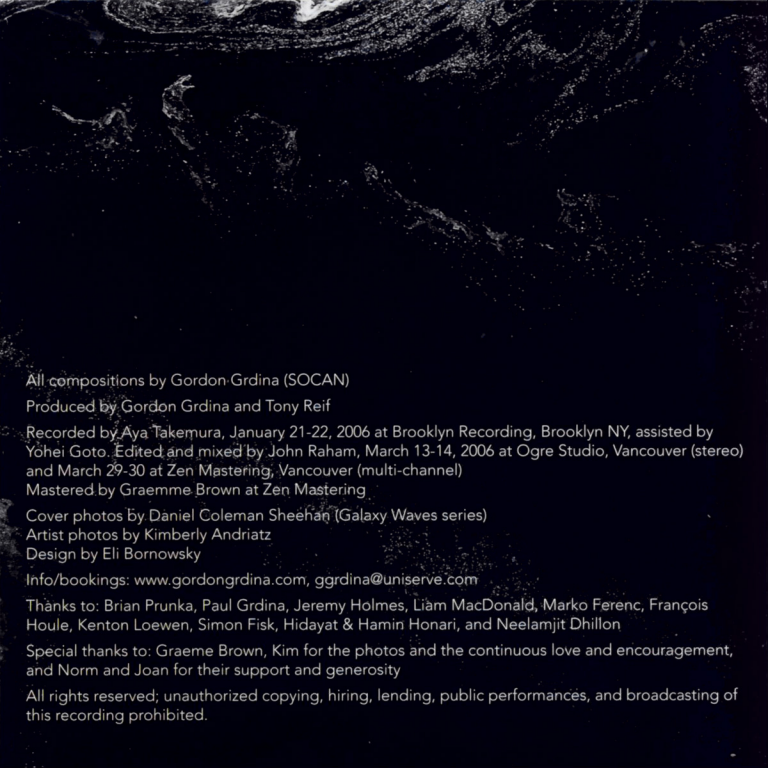
Gordon Grdina,
Vancouver, April 2006

"...No one can advise or help you – no one. There is only one thing you should do. Go into yourself... Confess to yourself whether you would have to die if you were forbidden to write. This most of all: ask yourself in the most silent hour of your night: Must I write?"

– Rainer Maria Rilke (from *Letters to a Young Poet*)

1. Yellow Spot into the Sun 5:59
2. Different Places 3:25
3. Platform 3:33
4. Renunciation 2:51
5. Morning Moon 3:01
6. Ginger Root 4:13
7. 100 Years 5:40
8. Distant 6:03
9. Combustion 2:54
10. Think Like the Waves 6:05
11. Cobble Hill 4:18
12. Albert the Monk 4:22
13. String Quartet #6 3:06
14. Strathcona 2:57





All compositions by Gordon Grdina (SOCAN)

Produced by Gordon Grdina and Tony Reif

Recorded by Aya Takemura, January 21-22, 2006 at Brooklyn Recording, Brooklyn NY, assisted by Yôhei Goto. Edited and mixed by John Raham, March 13-14, 2006 at Ogre Studio, Vancouver (stereo) and March 29-30 at Zen Mastering, Vancouver (multi-channel)

Mastered by Graemme Brown at Zen Mastering

Cover photos by Daniel Coleman Sheehan (Galaxy Waves series)

Artist photos by Kimberly Andriatz

Design by Eli Bornowsky

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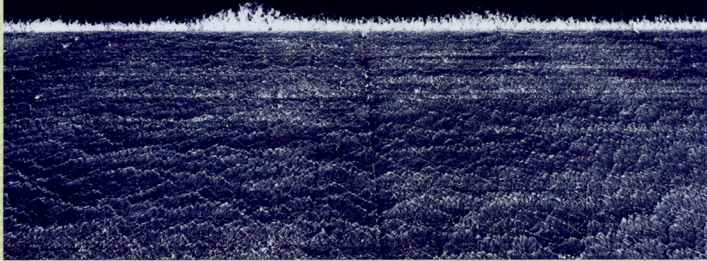
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GORDON GRDINA, GUITAR, OUD
GARY PEACOCK, BASS
PAUL MOTIAN, DRUMS

1. Yellow Spot into the Sun 2. Different Places 3. Platform 4. Renunciation 5. Morning Moon
6. Ginger Root 7. 100 Years 8. Distant 9. Combustion 10. Think Like the Waves
11. Cobble Hill 12. Albert the Monk 13. String Quartet #6 14. Strathcona total time: 58:30



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Recorded and mixed in 24/88.2 to stereo and 5.0
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