



## No. 231

**Sly & Robbie Present Stepper Takes the Taxi (MVDaudio)** — The approach on this instrumental CD is always playful, inviting, wordlessly invoking the spirit of the Kinks' "Sunny Afternoon" or Jimmy Buffett's "Cheeseburger in Paradise." Guillaume "Stepper" Briard is a French saxophonist/keyboardist who was given access to classic and new recorded riddims produced by Sly and Robbie over which he and several Jamaicans create an airy top over a funky bottom. Often ("Frenchman in Kingston," "Matera Lounge") there is the feel of a French café where, for unknown reasons, a world class reggae band is playing. Mixed by Briard's fellow Frenchman, Fabwise, who keeps what could have been lightweight and flimsy into something razor sharp and, in its own way, compelling.