



## **BILL BRUFORD EARTHWORKS**

### **VIDEO ANTHOLOGY VOLUME 1: 2000**

Legendary drummer/percussionist Bill Bruford is a true visionary, revealing no musical boundaries over the last 40 years as a drummer, band leader and song writer.

Be it progressive rock, electric or acoustic jazz, chamber or world music performing and recording with other bands (Yes, King Crimson, Genesis, UK) or his own Earthworks and Bruford band Mr. Bruford has quite frankly, been there and done that.

With the release of Earthworks Video Anthology Vol. I on his own Summerfold Records, this is the first in a two volume anthology featuring live footage of his own Earthworks jazz quartet.

The 14 tracks on Vol. I features live selections from the acoustic outfit between the years 2001 and 2005, while Vol. II chronicles the electronic version of the band throughout the 1990's.

Vol. I was filmed on tour in the United States (New York City's Bottom Line) in 2001, Argentina (Teatro Opera) in 2002 and Germany (Paderborn) in 2005, including three previously unreleased tracks while also marking the debut performances of pianist Gwilym Simcock both incredible musicians in their own right.

The three tracks from The Bottom Line feature (along with Bruford, of course) Patrick Clahar on saxophone, Steve Hamilton on piano and Mark Hodgson on bass, while five other cuts from the Argentina performance feature Hamilton and Hodgson, along with the highly acclaimed saxophonist Tom Garland who was previously in Chick Corea's jazz band.

However the most intriguing ensemble has to be the 2005 Germany set (six tracks) featuring Garland, Cottle and pianist Simcock, who really pushes the boundaries of Earthworks with his inventiveness and obvious appetite for improvisational adventure. This set also marks the return of the electric bass to Earthworks after a 10 year absence.

This is an exceptional and well-rounded overview documenting the growth of this truly innovative quartet and combined with volume two, adds up to over three hours of vintage performances that effectively capture the evolution of this truly amazing band.

- Joe Milliken