

TAKING THE REINS



PETE ZIMMER QUINTET BURNIN' LIVE AT THE JAZZ STANDARD

Take note pronto of this young up-and-coming drummer/leader on his second disc. Rooted in hard bop, albeit shaded with modern harmonies, the quintet is winning while Zimmer's drumming boasts a crisp, swinging command with judicious musicality. (www.tippinrecords.com) **Jeff Potter**

CHECK OUT THESE, TOO: PAUL PERESS THEN AGAIN (www.paulperess.com) • LARRY FINN LET THE BOYS PLAY (www.larryfinn.com) • JIMMY "JUNE BUG" JACKSON ON MY WAY HOME (www.bluecanoerecords.com) • SHAWN GLYDE ALTERNATE RHYTHM (www.imuso.com) • PAUL MOTIAN ON BROADWAY VOL. 4 (Winter & Winter)

VANTAGE POINT RESOLUTION

DVD LEVEL: ALL \$24.99

★★★★★



Led by **SIMON PHILLIPS** and pianist **Jeff Babko**, Vantage Point performs an intricate mélange of acoustic fusion and post hard bop compositions in this well-recorded and beautifully filmed DVD. Also featuring saxophonist **Brandon Fields**, trumpeter **Walt Fowler**, and bassist **Alphonso Johnson**, Vantage Point navigates difficult odd meter and Latin-based songs, and Phillips is in excellent form throughout. His straight-ahead touch is cut from Tony Williams' cloth, and his all too brief solos are based both on Williams and Billy Cobham. But Phillips' writing style is his own, performed by an LA super-band who explode on every track. (www.aixrecords.com) **Ken Micallef**

GLOBAL BEATS FOR DRUMSET AND PERCUSSION BY WALFREDO REYES JR.

DVD LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED \$24.95

★★★★★



As the animated Walfredo Reyes Jr. explains (imagine if Keith Moon had been born in Cuba), this DVD is about being "split-brained." Part of the book deals with adapting traditional beats like the samba to the drumkit. Another section discusses playing percussion rhythms and drumset beats simultaneously. Elsewhere, with great energy and a fine band helping him, Reyes shows off some of the hybrid beats that he's used with Steve Winwood and Santana. At one point he slams a cha cha-bell timbale rhythm along with a drumset beat that frees the other percussionist to play congas and other percussion. The two sound like three players, and all the parts are covered. "Before the drumset was invented, a lot of rock already existed in the world," Reyes smiles. (Hal Leonard) **Robin Tolleson**

DYNAMIC DRUMMING 3: PLAYING WITH PRECISION AND POWER

FEATURING CHRIS COLEMAN

DVD LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED \$44.99

★★★★★



The third installment of the *Dynamic Drumming* series features the amazing talent of Atlanta-based Gospel drummer/educator Chris Coleman. On this DVD, Chris demonstrates his flawless chops and effortless groove on several of his challenging funk/fusion compositions. The second half of the disc shifts to educational material, focusing on invaluable topics like constructing grooves with a bassist and playing with a sampler. The drummer also discusses his logical "ABC" practice method, which breaks down practice sessions into three segments: fundamentals (rudiments and sight-reading), five-way independence, and musicality. The only negatives here are the steep price and the absence of a thorough exercise booklet. (www.drumworksinc.com) **Michael Dawson**

BLACK UHURU WITH SLY & ROBBIE DUBBIN' IT LIVE

DVD LEVEL: ALL \$14.95

★★★★★



This July 2001 show finds the legendary rhythm section of **SLY DUNBAR** and **Robbie Shakespeare** if not at the top of their game, then pretty close. The little bit of rust is excusable, for this was a return to the stage following a decade off the road. The "Riddim Twins" reunited with Black Uhuru for the legendary reggae band's return, and the duo's steady grooves and frequent grins speak volumes on how glad they were to be back. The best bits are the breakdown sections toward the end of many tracks, highlighted by Dunbar turning the beat inside out on "Party Next Door," and cinching up tight with Shakespeare's bass by alternating between two snares and the tomtoms on "What Is Life." (MVD) **Patrick Berkery**

AND FURTHERMORE...

LONNIE PLAXICO WESTSIDE STORIES (CD)

Half ultra-safe, half adventurous, cutting-edge bassist Lonnie Plaxico's latest features up-and-comer **KENNY GROHOWSKI** grabbing his moments and holding on tight, as he burns through some intense modern fusion cuts. (www.lonnieplaxico.com) **Adam Budofsky**

DAVID LIEBMAN/STEVE SWALLOW/ADAM NUSSBAUM WE THREE (CD)

Three modern jazz kindred spirits reunite for a relaxing set of jazz standards and originals. **ADAM NUSSBAUM**'s flavorful brush- and stick-work are particularly tasty in this non-chordal environment. (Challenge Jazz) **Michael Dawson**

QUEENSRÛCHE OPERATION: MINDCRIME II (CD)

The long-awaited follow-up to the '80s classic, *OMC II* resolves the chilling tale of revenge told by these prog-metal kings. The album grows more impressive with each listen, and **SCOTT ROCKENFIELD**'s drumming is always musical and dynamic. (Rhino) **Mike Haid**

METALLICA CLASSIC SONGS (DVD)

Instructor Jack E. Roth presents himself in an inviting, educated manner while performing and discussing examples from **LARS ULRICH**'s classic Metallica drum tracks. Unfortunately the often disjointed information within many examples can be confusing, especially for an untrained player. Written examples would have



been helpful. And at \$29.99, it's a pricy package for the amount of info offered. **Mike Haid**

VELVET UNDERGROUND AND CAPTAIN BEEFHEART UNDER REVIEW (DVD)

Two new releases in the fascinating Under Review DVD series continue the trend of quality critical analyses of important rock artists. Velvet Underground and Captain Beefheart installments benefit greatly from recent interview footage by, respectively, drummers **JOHN FRENCH** and **MAUREEN TUCKER**. Great stuff. (Sexy Intellectual) **Adam Budofsky**

