



# TUMBLE

## *Music for Trio*

Release date January 31, 2017

1. Down in the Depths (6:30)
2. Avian Migration (9:09)
3. Old Statues Watching (7:55)
4. Callie Mac (6:35)
5. Lascialo Andare (7:28)
6. Saffron Robe (7:33)
7. Dark Clouds in the Sierra Madre (5:57)

**Robert Heirendt, mbira**  
**Sean Kerrigan, electric guitar**  
**Randy McKean, tenor sax; Bb & bass clarinets**  
with  
**Mei Lin Heirendt, violin (track 6)**  
**Callum McKean, trombone (track 4)**

**Tumble**, the Nevada City, CA-based chamber jazz group centered around the unique sound of **Robert Heirendt's** mbira (sometimes known as the African thumb piano), announces the release of its first CD, **Music for Trio**. This self-release features seven intricate, trance-like compositions and arrangements that combine folkish melodies and driving rhythms with an improvisational jazz sensibility.

**Music for Trio** leads off with Heirendt's African-trance-dance take on **Wayne Shorter's** hard bop tune *Down in the Depths*, followed by guitarist **Sean Kerrigan's** mesmerizing *Avian Migration* and the atmospheric Heirendt original *Old Statues Watching*. Many of the recording's highlights were inspired by deep personal experiences: Heirendt's *Saffron Robe* pays tribute to his daughter **Mei Lin's** Asian heritage and features her on violin, while reed player **Randy McKean's** jaunty *Callie Mac*, inspired by his son **Callum's** tap-dancing prowess as a young lad, features Cal, now grown, on trombone. Kerrigan's soulful *Dark Clouds in the Sierra Madre* came to him while on a motorcycle trip through Mexico. The group's version of the spaghetti western theme *Lascialo Andare* adds flash and fire to the set.

Drawing inspiration from the groups Oregon, Codona, the Art Ensemble of Chicago, and musicians such as John Coltrane and Thomas Mapfumo, Tumble weaves diverse musical influences into an intricate whole, including traditional Zimbabwean trance music, modern improvisation, modal jazz, Afro pop, and experimental compositional structures. Tumble has brought its delicate interplay of form and freedom to venues throughout Northern California, including Nevada City's Nevada Theatre and Miners Foundry, Sacramento's Gold Lion Arts, and the Nebraska Mondays and Col. McCaw Magical Cure-All music series.

Tumble's newest member is bass master **Bill Douglass**, who has worked with countless music legends, including Mose Allison, Marian McPartland, Tom Waits, and Paul McCandless, another member of Tumble's heroes Oregon. The quartet plans to return to the studio in the spring of 2017 to begin work on their next release.

[www.randymckean.com/tumble](http://www.randymckean.com/tumble)  
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