

PRESENTS
THE NEW CD OF
REGGIE
WASHINGTON



Photo : David Crunelle

REGGIE WASHINGTON FREEDOM



★ REGGIE WASHINGTON

The bassist extraordinaire **REGGIE WASHINGTON** will release his second CD entitled **"FREEDOM"** in Spring 2012 on the **Jammin'colorS label**.

Reggie is a bassist of rare sobriety and efficacy. His savant bass lines are legible and they always serve the music. He has a certain form of exigence and great musical taste. His list of collaborations is infinite in addition to being a participant in the revolution of Modern Jazz during the 90's.

In 2005, he stepped out as a leader for the first time in his career with **"A Lot of Love, LIVE !"**, on the **Jammin'colorS label**. The CD has received stellar reviews from journalists and colleagues worldwide in the music business. It is being played on U.S.A. and European radio to touch a wider audience.

"My music represents the cutting edge of jazz today. It's a healthy musical mix paying homage to our forefathers and exploring our craft by journeying down new roads to help pave the way for the future." says Reggie. For him, the music must evolve and he feels he's among the select group of musicians capable and dedicated to keeping MUSIC alive and strong.

Reggie has toured with his bands through Europe and the U.S.A to very receptive and appreciative audiences. **Bass Player magazine** presented Reggie in its August 2007 issue entitled "The Eternal Internal" by journalist **Bill Milkowski**. In 2008, Reggie was among the winners of the Rising Stars electric bassist category in **DownBeat magazine's** International Critics Poll. He was also featured in the April 2008 issue of **Jazz Times magazine** in an article entitled "Overdue Ovation; Groove Instincts". He has also appeared in **Jazz Magazine, Jazzman, De Bassist, Jazz Hot, Le Soir, ...**

Aside from holding down the groove for **Steve Coleman's Five Elements**, Reggie has also played for such notable groups as **Roy Hargrove's RH Factor, Branford Marsalis's Buckshot LeFonque** and **Oliver Lake Steel Quartet**. His extensive list of credits includes work with African drum master **Babatunde Olatunje**, calypso star **Mighty Sparrow**, jazz singer **Cassandra Wilson**, R&B singer **D'Angelo**, guitarist **Jean-Paul Bourelly**, pianist **Uri Caine**, trumpeter **Lester Bowie**, clarinetist **Don Byron**, alto saxophonist **Arthur Blythe**, the **World Saxophone Quartet**, **Mike Mainieri's Steps Ahead**, saxophonist **Jacques Schwarz-Bart**, bassist-vocalist **Meshell Ndegeocello** and cabaret diva **Ute Lemper**.

★ FREEDOM



For this new CD, Reggie brings on-board **JEFF LEE JOHNSON** (guitar) and **GENE LAKE** (drums). The journalists, the audience and fellow musicians call this trio "THE DREAM TEAM".

After touring in Switzerland, Belgium, UK, France and Germany the three virtuosos, extremely talented and creative installed themselves in Studio Six (Brussels) for 3 days to record "**FREEDOM**".

Some special guests such as **JOZEF DUMOULIN** (Fender Rhodes), **FABRICE ALLEMAN** (saxophone), **RICH BROWN** (bass), **TIBOO** (spoken word) & **DJ GRAZZHOPPA** (turntables) were invited to join this unique adventure.

Jef, Gene, Jozef and Fabrice have already performed with Reggie in one of his projects. Fellow bassist **Rich Brown** and spoken word artist **Tiboo** came to add their own spices on this new CD. These musicians gave of their gifts of sound & soul to help Reggie realize his own **FREEDOM**. With the assistance of his engineer **PATRICE HARDY**, Reggie creates a positive and intense musical atmosphere where you will enter with pleasure.

"**FREEDOM was an old dream of my wife/manager Stefany**" says Reggie. "This trio would be powerful" she kept telling him. The thing was... He knew that ! Her desire to hear Reggie, Jef & Gene perform and record together was the force behind this project.

They've created this all together making this a work of their art. Few artists are free in their art and this CD says :

"Get out of that gilded cage and continue to create what's truly inside you. There are no rules for good music. If it's good, it comes to you naturally."

This is our FREEDOM !

"FREEDOM" is also :

- a **meeting** of European and American musicians and a mix of different musical genres like Jazz, Funk, Rock, Blues, Classical and World Music.
- a **hope** for all musicians who want to spread their own music without fighting through all the barriers that we cross every day in the music industry.
- a **message** to say that you don't have to follow the masses. You have to listen to yourself and continue to believe in what you do. Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong said it best "No, No... They can't take that away from me".
- an **opportunity** to share the music when/where/with who we want to.
- a **present** to all the generations.
- a **liberty** to spread happiness in this confused world.
- a **dream** that has come true.



Live at New Morning (Paris)

*Backstage
with the
"DREAM TEAM"*



★ THE MUSICIANS

Jef Lee Johnson plays with a rare intensity. His riffs are some of the most stimulating and his solos are blazing. Stylistically he is deep, engaging and passionate. His own albums ranging from 1996 to 2011 are equally wide-ranging affairs. Fed by his heroes [Eric Dolphy, John Coltrane, Vanilla Fudge, Jimi Hendrix], Jef has performed with Aretha Franklin, George Duke, Al Jarreau, Mc Coy Tyner & is currently touring the world with Grammy Award winner Esperanza Spalding.

Gene Lake is known as a Jazz and Funk drummer. He is subtle, inspiring, adventurous and is afraid of nothing. A myriad of acrobatic butterflies fly above his drums (a specialist of the ghost note) and 100,000 beats per minute rise from his feline sticks. Gene has a groove full of technique but uses it appropriately. His working credits include Meshell Ndegeocello, David Sanborn, D'Angelo, Joe Zawinul, Marcus Miller & Screaming Headless Torsos.

Jozef Dumoulin is one of the most inventive pioneers in his genre. He is a music traveller, a Keyboard magician who pursues his interior path and challenges the boundaries. His capacity of mixing different musical genres is perfectly natural. Jozef has played with Magic Malik, Octurn, Dré Pallemmaerts, Aka Moon, The Belmondo Brothers, David Lynx, Mark Turner, ...

Fabrice Alleman is one of the best European multi-saxophonists and clarinetists of the moment. He recently received the SABAM JAZZ AWARD in 2011. Fabrice has a warm sound with a salty edge not heard from this generation of saxophonists. He has shared the stage with Terence Blanchard, Toots Thielemans, Jean-Pierre Catoul, Philippe Catherine & Nathalie Lories.

Rich Brown has been an active member of Toronto's culturally diverse music scene since 1992. Rich's unique style fuses jazz with world music in Autorickshaw and his own band Rinsethealgorithm. He has also worked with Carol Welsman, Bruce Cockburn, Vernon Reid, Steve Coleman and is currently touring with saxophonist Rudresh Mahanthappa.

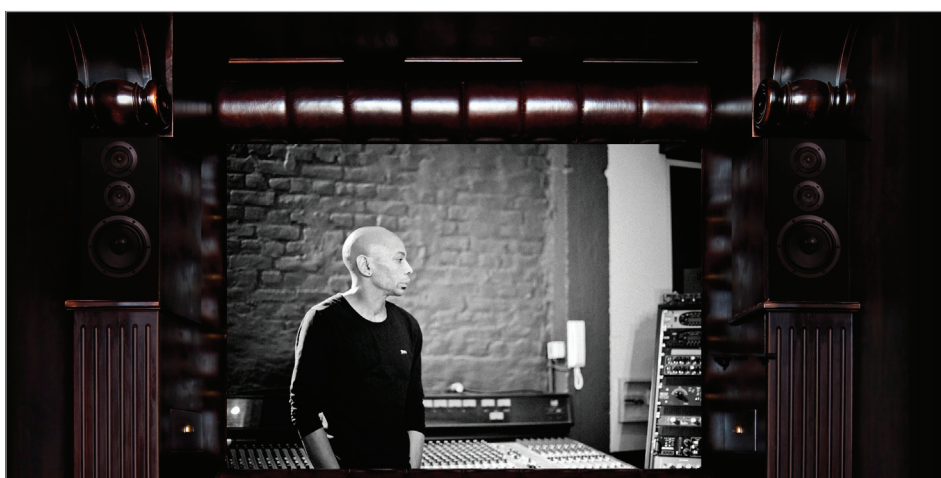
TIBOO grew up with a Jazz loving father who went to see concerts of John Coltrane, Art Blakey, Miles Davis, Bill Evans, Sonny Rollins, Wynton Kelly and a mother more eclectic who listened to Deep Purple, Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Simon & Garfunkel. This mix made TIBOO more curious about all the musical landscapes that co-exist in the world. She decided to involve herself more in the music to focus her real mission on this earth : Make a Better World !

Belgian turntable pioneer and accomplished producer, **DJ Grazzhopa** is considered by some to be the godfather of Belgian Hip-Hop. The turntables are his instruments, the samples and phrases are his notes. He has collaborated with Aka Moon, Marc Ribot, James Poyser, Manu Kathe and David Gilmore and has released over 100 recordings on vinyl and CD. Two of which are from his group "Mo & Grazz" with his wife Monique Harcum (singer and Philadelphia native).

★ THE TEAM

THANKS to all the musicians for their contribution, Patrice Hardy, Alan Ward, Dimitri Louis, Camille Millerand, Joachim Bertrand, Frédéric Goaty, Marian Urasinski, Tallani, David Crunelle, Laborel Consulting, White Line, the journalists, the promoters, the fans, the friends and the family.

Your support is appreciated !



★ CONTACT

To schedule interviews with Reggie Washington, book his band or to have more information about the CD "FREEDOM"... please contact Stefany Calembert.

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