As a sidewoman



Greg Gisbert leads an impressive septet through a set of challenging material on this program. His playing is excellent as are his two originals, which are performed along with a pair from pianist Janice Friedman (including the witty "The Love Dirge"), Maria Schneider's "Waltz for Toots," and three jazz standards. The music is post-bop jazz that occasionally sounds a bit (during the ensembles) like Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers and sometimes looks back toward classic bebop. The solos are mostly quite advanced, with each of the horn players having their spots (tenor saxophonist Tim Ries is particularly impressive). The versatile Greg Gisbert, who is sometimes quite fiery, deserves to be much better known. Scott Yanow, All Music Guide

The Court Jester

Greg Gisbert | Criss Cross

Personnel: Greg Gisbert- trumpet & fluegelhorn, Conrad Herwig- trombone, Tim Ries- tenor sax, soprano sax & flute, Jon Gordon- alto and soprano sax, Janice Friedmanpiano, Jay Anderson- bass, Gregory Hutchinson- drums.

Elsewhere one gets the sense that Gisbert was trying to present a taste of all the recent writing tricks he has added to his arranger's bag. The tunes are unusual and the voicings for this large ensemble (that includes trombone, saxophones, and flutes) are sonorous and delightful. It should also be mentioned that the crack rhythm team of pianist Janice Friedman, bassist Jay Anderson and drummer Gregory Hutchinson adds support that can only be described as perfect. And while Gisbert's comments in the liner notes tend to suggest that he's a bit hard on himself in terms of his own playing, the fact remains that there's nothing here that seems at all superfluous or mundane. The Court Jester is a memorable disc that will stand up over repeated listening and what more could you want then that?

Composers

Greg Gisbert

Janice Friedman

iTunes

Greg Gisbert

"The crack rhythm team of pianist Janice Friedman, bassist Jay Anderson and drummer Gregory **Hutchinson adds support** that can only be described as perfect."

> Greg Gisbert (8:15)Greg Gisbert (8:22)

The Love Dirge **Milt Hinton**

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Milt Hinton The Basement Tapes (Chiaroscuro)

"With Janice Friedman on piano, they give some relaxed, yet swinging readings..."



Bassist Milt Hinton, who died in 2000 at the age of ninety, worked as a musician from the 1920s through the 1990s, making innumerable recordings as a sideman.

A new release, The Basement Tapes, consists of private recordings made by Hinton in 1989-90 with a variety of groups which included Warren Vache, Kenny Davern, Frank Wess, Janice Friedman, James Williams, Howard Alden, Kenny Washington and Jackie Williams. The album also includes liner notes by bassist Bill Crow and several photos by Hinton, who was a serious photographer. (His photos of fellow musicians were eventually published in several books, including Bass Line. The four recording sessions on this CD were financed by Hinton's book royalties.)

The first three tunes include Warren Vache with some fine, mellow trumpet playing. With Janice Friedman on piano, they give some relaxed, yet swinging readings of Billy Strayhorn's tunes "Raincheck" and "Johnny Come Lately" and Johnny Mandel's beautiful ballad "A Time For Love."