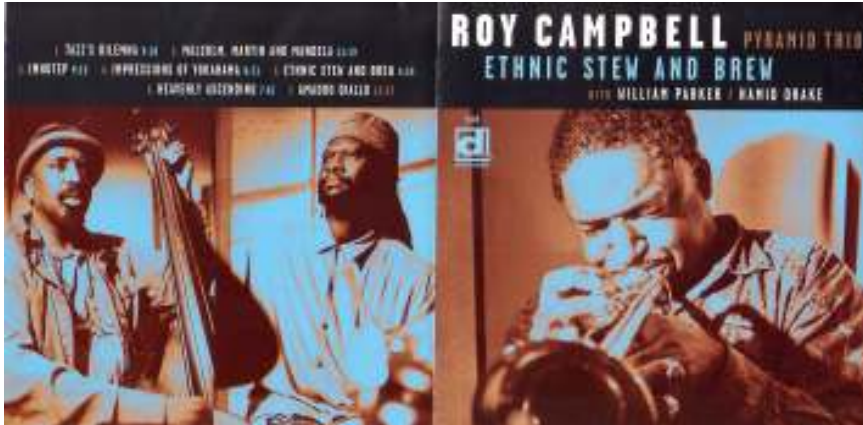


PYRAMID TRIO

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Roy CAMPBELL
(trumpet, flugelhorn,
pocket trumpet)

William PARKER
(bass, shakuhachi)

Hamid DRAKE
(drums, frame drum)

ABOUT

Pyramid Trio has been led by trumpeter Roy Campbell for several decades. William Parker handled the bass end from the beginning, but the drum slot has shifted between several men including Zen Matsuura and Reggie Nicholson. Hamid Drake is the latest drummer of the group and forms with William Parker a sagacious groove. Campbell's compositions sound like the mission of this trio is to revive jazz tradition through folk music from Asia, Africa, Middle East.

QUOTES

“With Ethnic Stew and Brew, trumpeter Roy Campbell and his Pyramid Trio confirm their status as one of the most important free-jazz units. Like Don Cherry, Roy can improvise solo that you can practically sing along to, though he doesn't sound at all like the late harmonic world music explorer; his blues-drenched authority, vocal inflections, and post-bop phraseology suggest, rather, one of his former teachers, trumpeter Lee Morgan. (...) This recording's mix of Reggae, Afro Cuban, and swinging jazz beats and free pulse launches his snacky post-bop melodies and his free-jazz sound abstractions over stylistic chasms with graceful ease....” Ed Hazell, *The Boston Phoenix*, August 2001

“The Pyramid trio draw from within, using diverse rhythms, melodies, and instruments to create something that is more than jazz. They blur borders with every note. Only the Art Ensemble of Chicago has ever done anything this complex in a small group.” Daniel Piotrowski, *City Paper*, 2001

“With its blend of world music, New York experimentalism, and dazzling virtuosity, it is no surprise to find the record already on a lot of critics 10 best year lists.” Maurice Bottomey, *Pop Matters Music*

DISCOGRAPHY

- Ethnic Stew and Brew, Delmark 2001
- Ancestral homeland, No more records, 1998
- Communion, Silkheart, 1994