

PRESS RELEASE

The Paul Plimley Octet brings together eight musicians of highly varied performing background who share a common desire to develop a music which affords a complete spectrum of ensemble tone colours and melodic invention, a music that is both rhythmically alive and sustained in an atmosphere of sensitive lyricism and good humor.

Comprising the Octet are:

- Paul Plimley:** Cofounder of the New Orchestra Workshop (NOW) and recipient of a 1978 Canada Council grant.  
(Vibes; Piano) Musical collaborator with Roscoe Mitchell, Gunther Christmann and Karl Berger; student of Cecil Taylor (1979).  
The subject of half hour documentary about his music, Plimley has often been seen on television and heard on radio (Two New Hours, Jazz Canada, etc.) and has recorded three albums.
- Graham Ord:** Has performed throughout Canada in a wide variety of ensembles;  
(Alto Sax; Flute) has composed soundtracks for video;  
has recorded albums with Barbara Fischer and Sandro Camerin.
- Coat Cooke:** CBC performer with R & B band, Mean Streak.  
(Tenor Sax; Flute; Guitar) Player/collaborator in numerous musical theatre productions.
- Gordon Bertram:** Experienced studio musician;  
(Baritone Sax; Clarinet) has recorded and toured with the Powder Blues band, Jim Byrnes, Al Foreman and others.
- Kevin Lee:** Bachelor of Music degree from Western Washington University;  
(Trumpet) studied with Dick Grove in Los Angeles  
has played dates in Europe.

**Ralph Eppel:** Bachelor of Music degree from the University of  
(Trombone; British Columbia.  
Euphonium) Has taken part in studio, symphonic and jazz sessions  
across Canada.

**Paul Blaney:** Has recorded on Mercury and CBS records;  
toured extensively throughout the U.S.A.

**Blaine Wikjord:** Musical collaborator with Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis  
(Drums) Herbie Spanier.  
has appeared on numerous radio and T.V. shows.

For the most part, the Octet plays original compositions enhanced by each individual's interpretive collaboration. (Adapted material includes Thelonious Monk tunes and Sousa marches). Unique in concept, the Octet functions as a contemporary "mini-orchestra". Inspired by a number of regional traditions (especially Afro-American and European Classical), the band intends to communicate with as wide a range of listeners as possible.

The demo tape included here serves as an appetizer from the Octet's musical menu. The three excerpts are:

- 1) **Miles** (a piece inspired by Miles Davis, shows the Octet in "Jazz ambience").
- 2) **From a Diary of Dreams** (a ballade excerpted from a larger suite, written—as was the first piece—by Paul Plimley.
- 3) **The Chase** (by Coat Cooke; a 5/4 funk melody with an extra punch).

An album is currently in the planning stages.

Concert fees are negotiable (providing the final sum is mutually equitable). Matters such as pianos and P.A.'s are also open to discussion. For further information contact, Paul Plimley at 866 West 13th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1P2, Canada. Telephone: (604) 875-1855.