

The Next Step

duende entendre

Kreating Sound 03

The Next Step is the second recording by the duo, duende entendre, formed in 2008 by percussionist/sound artist Ron Coulter and poet/bassist Sam West. The impetus for the collaboration was West's stream-of-consciousness writings and a mutual desire to integrate sound-texts with acoustic instruments and both analog and digital electronics in composed and improvised performance contexts. All of the works on this recording are on a continuum of free improvisation and composition developed in truly experimental rehearsal sessions and live performance. None of the works are entirely composed or improvised, rather each is an integration of the two with varying ratios that change with each realization.

Relative to their debut recording, *duende entendre*, the new areas of inquiry on *The Next Step* include West's acoustic bass playing and live looping alongside Coulter's use of live electronics and more varied set of acoustic instruments. These developments have aided in creating more complex textures in live and recorded contexts adding richness to their sonic environments and broadening the sonic geography they traverse. This recording also sees a greater freedom in regard to texts and their manipulation in performance and stands as a documentation of continued exploration and development of the true collaborative process.

Sam West is a bass player, poet, composer, lyricist, and vocalist currently residing in Nashville, TN. As a poet, West evokes a stream of consciousness style tied to a rhythmic pulse. His works have been published in the poetry journals: "River Bluff Review" (2011), "Expressions" (2008, 2009), and "Radio Free Boskeydell" (2006). As a bass player, West has performed internationally and throughout the United States including, New York, Chicago, Nashville, St. Louis, and Philadelphia, as well as touring Alaska with Kevin Worrell and Ireland with County Line. At present, Sam can be found backing some of Nashville's finest, including Greg Garing, Andy Gibson, Chris Scruggs, and Kenny Vaughn. Since 2006, he has manned the vocals and fretless jazz bass in the fusion group *The Sam West Trio* releasing their first E.P. "Steady" in 2010. Additional projects include the New Roots, Ivas John Band, Brothers on the Sly, Adam Dalton & the B-Sides, and Greg Garing's Music City Circus. West also performs solo acoustic material on guitar, blending elements of jazz, blues, folk, and country. Owner of Sam West Publishing, Sam holds the rights to more than 200 original works. His first album "Demonstrations" was released in 2010, and his most recent album "Skeleton" will be released in Fall 2012.

Ron Coulter is Senior Lecturer of Percussion, Improvisation, and Jazz Studies at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and has presented at more than 70 colleges and universities internationally. He has toured internationally appearing in 44 U.S. states, Europe, Canada, and Japan with artists such as the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Chicago Chamber Orchestra, Four Aces, Sean Jones, L²Ork, Al Martino, Tatsuya Nakatani, Sandy Duncan, Bolokada Condé, Music from China, Youngstown Symphony Orchestra, and Rapture7, among others. Ron has presented at numerous conferences and festivals including: ISIM, PASIC, MENC, NIME, JEN, LiWoLi, BMC-3,

CMS, a.pe.ri.od.ic, Futurisms, Sound Lines, RadiaLx, Athena Festival, JVC and Montreal Jazz Festivals. He is co-founder of the Percussion Art Ensemble, REDVIXA, duende entendre, and artistic director of the Southern Illinois Improvisation Series. Additional interests include noise, acoustic ecology, intermedia, interdisciplinary collaboration, and organizing Fluxusconcerts. As a composer, Ron has created more than 200 compositions for various media.

Track List (with instrumentation)

1. *Will, Body, Spirit* : bass feedback, voice, 3 large tam tams – 4:06
2. *Before You Were Grounded in Space* : 4 thin cymbals, voice – 0:46
3. *What of Feel?* : mark tree, drum set, flat ride, loop pedal, voice – 5:10
4. *Action Is* : 2 metronomes, 3 Line 6 effects units, voice, Alesis mixer with effects – 5:12
5. *Cemetery Walk* : music box, 3 concert bass drums, bowed acoustic bass, voice – 2:51
6. *Ice Cream Truck Man* : found audio loop, voice, circuit bent Kawasaki keyboard – 2:58
7. *Conceptualization Over Concept* : 5 porcelain rice bowls (2 broken), 4 crotales, 2 elephant bells, aluminum pot lid, voice – 3:28
8. *Touch Glimpse Happen Since* : drum set, loop pedal, acoustic bass, voice – 5:53
9. *Anchored Ridged* : vibraphone, copper wind chimes, voice, digital processing – 6:45
10. *Vague Illusionary* : voices (x2) – 1:47
11. *Could We Will Across* : drum set, megaphone, voice – 3:40
12. *Water Poem* : amplified water, voice, digital processing – 5:12

All compositions by Sam West and Ron Coulter

Producer : Ron Coulter

Recording Engineer : Kelly Caringer

Mixing, Post Production, and Digital Mastering : Ron Coulter

Cover Art and Graphic Design : Ron Coulter

Recorded on August 26, 2011 in Carbondale, IL.

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Note, this is an audiophile recording with broad, uncompressed frequency and dynamic ranges. It is recommended that the recording be played back on unbiased professional quality audio equipment without use of equalization.