

HARRIET TUBMAN

DOUBLE TRIO (usa)



Brandon Ross – guitars, banjo

Melvin Gibbs – electric bass

JT Lewis – drums

Graham Haynes – cornet

DJ Logic – turntables

Val Inc. – turntables

Forthcoming album: Ascension 2K (Sunnyside Records, April 2011)

HARRIET TUBMAN is a musical collective formed in 1998 by guitarist/vocalist **Brandon Ross**, bassist **Melvin Gibbs** and drummer **JT Lewis**. Harriet Tubman was an African-American woman born into slavery in 1822 in the southern US state of Maryland. Tubman is renowned as a liberator of other African-American slaves who like she, chose to defy the system of Slavery and seek freedom by escaping to the North. She accomplished this with the help of a secret network of safe houses, or "stations" on what was known as "The Underground Railroad".

Far from being underground, Ross, Gibbs and Lewis have collectively performed with some of the most important musical innovators and visionaries of the last half of the 20th century: Herbie Hancock, Henry Threadgill, Tony Williams, Don Pullen, Tina Turner, James Blood Ulmer, Sonny Sharrock, Leroy Jenkins, Cassandra Wilson, Ronald Shannon Jackson, Oliver Lake, Muhal Richard Abrams, Aretha Franklin, Lawrence Butch Morris, and many others.

The music of Harriet Tubman is both familiar and fresh, while allowing the listener to experience the music free from distracting labels of style or genre. At the same time, it is easy to perceive sources that have seeded the musical development of the trio. From the electric explosion of fabled Miles Davis bands of the 70's; to the transcendent spirituality of the music of the Mississippi Delta and beyond; to the anointing cry of John Coltrane's musical apex; to the open rhyme scheme of the rhythm invention of the American Urban 80's; to the imagined sound of the endless expanse of the African savannah - Harriet Tubman uses ALL of their musical experiences to communicate a vision of musical freedom and musical invention for those who choose to take the journey.

HARRIET TUBMAN will have a new release on Sunnyside Records in April 2011, a live recording of their interpretation of John Coltrane's "Ascension", **titled "Ascension 2K"**.



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