

Bill Carrothers

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Bill Carrothers has been a professional pianist for over 20 years. He has played many venues throughout the U.S. and Europe including the Village Gate, Knitting Factory, Birdland, Blues Alley, New Morning (Paris), the Audi Jazz Festival in Brussels, the Nevers Jazz Festival (where he shared the bill with Abbey Lincoln), the Montreal Jazz Festival, Jazz Middelheim, and the Marciac Festival in France. In October of 2000, Mr. Carrothers headlined the prestigious Rising Star Tour throughout Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. He has been a leader on nine recordings, all of which have received critical acclaim. His sideman credits have included some of

the greatest names in jazz, including Joe Beck, Scott Colley, Buddy DeFranco, Dave Douglas, Curtis Fuller, Eric Gravatt, Drew Gress, Tim Hagans, Billy Higgins, Lee Konitz, James Moody, Matt "Guitar" Murphy, Gary Peacock, Dewey Redman, Charlie Rouse, James Spaulding, Bill Stewart, Ira Sullivan, Toots Thielemans, and Benny Wallace.

Discography

As a leader

The Artful Dodger (1987)
The Blues and the Greys (1997)
A Band In All Hope (1997)
After Hours, Vol. 4 (1999)
The Language of Crows (1999)
Duets With Bill Stewart (2000)
Swing Sing Songs (2001)
The Electric Bill (2002)
Ghost Ships (2003)
Armistice 1918 (2004)

Label As a sideman

Bridge Boy Bill Stewart - Snide Remarks (1995)
Bridge Boy Bill Stewart - Telepathy (1997)
Bridge Boy Jay Epstein - Long Ago (1997)
GoJazz Scott Colley - Subliminal (1998)
Bridge Boy Dave Douglas - Moving Portrait (1999)
Birdology / Dreyfus Ira Sullivan - After Hours, Vol. 5 (2000)
Birdology / Dreyfus Peg Carrothers - Blue Skies (2001)
Birdology / Dreyfus Phil Grenadier - Playful Intentions (2003)
Sketch
Sketch

Label

Bluenote
Bluenote
Bridge Boy
Criss Cross
DIW / Sony
GoJazz
Bridge Boy
F.S.N.T.

Bill Carrothers - Armistice 1918

Press Releases

Les Inrockuptibles - "A phenomenon, a poet of the keyboard, fundamental and inspiring, a true revelation."

Libération - "The pianist of the 21st century."

Télérama - "The new monster of the piano."

Le Monde - "The most exciting discovery of the year."

* 2004 Grand Prix de l'académie Charles Cros

* Jazz Magazine - Top 10 of 2004

* JazzMan Magazine - Top 10 of 2004

* Le Monde - Top 10 of 2004

* Montreal Mirror - Top 10 of 2004

* Liberation - Top 3 of 2004

* JAZZIZ Magazine - Critics Choice, 2004

* Inrockuptibles - Top 10 of 2004

* Jazz Times Magazine - Critic's Choice, 2004

* Allaboutjazz.com - Critic's Choice, 2004

New York Times (USA)

October 25, 2004

Critic's Choice

by Ben Ratliff

"...[Armistice 1918] is an ambitious work of repertory and imagination."

The Guardian (UK)

September 10, 2004

John L. Walters

"A jazz suite inspired by the First World War sounds like impossible territory. But Bill Carrothers has triumphed."

The Irish Times (UK)

Ray Comiskey

***** (5 star rating)

"...[Armistice 1918] is many things: beautiful, sombre, wry, satirical and compassionate, a powerful anti-war statement and a tribute to the suffering and losses endured by combatants and loved ones, suffused with their yearnings... As a suite it's very moving, imaginative, resonant with layered emotions - and one of the best surprises of the year."

AllAboutJazz.com (USA)

Reviewed by John Kelman

"...The musicians' performances are secondary to the cinematic scope of the cycle. That they are improvisers of the highest calibre and with distinct personalities is a given, but Carrothers' work insists more that they surrender completely to the music, and concern themselves less with conveying their own capabilities than with the emotional demands of the work... Armistice 1918 is a career-defining work from a pianist whose every step is worth watching."

Montreal Mirror (CAN)

Rating: 10 out of 10
Top 10 of 2004

Télérama (FR)

(ffff "exceptional")
"...something very beautiful and utterly different."

Rolling Stone (FR)

"All in all, over and above the context of the Great War, this album, surely the finest of his career, immediately places him in the ranks of those belonging to the spiritual part of our heritage."

Jazz Magazine (FR)

Disques d'émotion (Disc of the month - September 2004)
Top 10 of 2004

Allaboutjazz.com (USA)

Understated, reflective and at times almost unbearably poignant, Armistice 1918 isn't a feel-good album. But it is, extra-musically, a morale-boosting and important one, and, musically, a sui generis jazz set.

Piano Bleu (FR)

Sélection du mois (Disc of the month - September 2004)

Ottawa Citizen (CAN)

4 1/2 stars
"It's a provocative, fully realized collection that sounds at once like 1918 and 2004, surprisingly affecting for listeners with no direct connection to the Great War."

Citizen Jazz (FR)

Highest rating

Le Nouvel Observateur (FR)

"Armistice 1918 is a masterpiece."

Avignon, FR (live show)

August 7, 2004
"An authentic, courageous project...a revelation."

Improvijazzation Nation (USA)

"There are some masterful compositions & high talent here, truly inspiring music! You can't pigeonhole this album into any particular corner, it is a work of art & deserves wide recognition! This gets our MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, & should be "recommended listening" for grade-schoolers!"

JazzMan Magazine (FR)

Top 10 of 2004
"Bill Carrothers' art bears the special hallmark of reminiscences from another era (particularly that of stride); here it unfurls in all its glory, as much by its ability to touch the listener's imagination as by the intelligent way he has constructed this journey to the end of the darkness of our collective memory. It is a masterpiece on both counts."