

# Trio M

*Myra Melford, Mark Dresser, Matt Wilson*



Photo: Nicholas Roberts

*"What makes this trio so different is not that they depart this strong structure...but that everything they spontaneously come upon creates new forms, and the relationships among the forms is never obvious."*

*JazzTimes*

*"Arresting in its captivating melodicism, and profoundly egalitarian in its balance of instrumental voices, Big Picture by the newly formed Trio M is one of the delights of the year. Highest recommendation!"*

*IAJRC Journal*

*"With a nod to its enduring fertility, Trio M joyfully confounds expectations with the liteness afforded by the piano trio format."*

*All About Jazz*

*"This is a powerful trio with the musicians deeply in sync with each other. While different instruments will occasionally take a lead role in particular improvisations, it is the collective integrity of the music that impresses the most." DTMG*

*"The ever-adaptable Wilson wryly draws the humor out of his compatriots' playing, particularly on the throbbing, percussive "FreeKnonomics," while providing illuminating color to the tunes." Down Beat*

Featuring protean pianist Myra Melford, galvanizing bassist Mark Dresser and supremely musical drummer Matt Wilson, Trio M brings together three visionary jazz artists with extensive track records in adventurous ensembles. Documented on the acclaimed 2007 Cryptogramophone CD "Big Picture," the volatile ensemble explores compositions contributed by every member while maintaining a commitment to spontaneous improvisation.

Unbound by piano trio conventions, the leaderless project erases distinctions between frontline and accompanist, requiring each player to shape the music's flow as it unfolds. The resulting sounds can be fierce and beatific, playful and rigorous, earthy or abstract, extravagantly joyous or quietly introspective. The only constant is the triumvirate's wondrous capacity to listen deeply and respond to one another other in unexpected ways, creating state of the art jazz that's unbound by notions of genre, form, or conventional technique.

<http://www.myspace.com/triom>

## Contact Info:

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## **Myra Melford**

Raised in the Chicago area, Myra Melford gravitated early in her career to musicians associated with the AACM collective such as violinist Leroy Jenkins and alto saxophonist/composer Henry Threadgill. She's first gained attention with her brawny trio featuring bassist Lindsey Horner and drummer Reggie Nicholson. Known for her high energy, percussive attack, Melford is also a deliciously lyrical player with a passion for classical Indian music (the harmonium has become an important textural element in her sound). An inventive composer and inveterate creator of bands, she has recorded with many ensembles, including The Same River, Twice, with trumpeter Dave Douglas, cellist Erik Friedlander, drummer Michael Sarin and Chris Speed on reeds, and Equal Interest, a cooperative trio with Joseph Jarman and the late Leroy Jenkins. Her other projects include a duo with reed master Marty Ehrlich, a quartet she co-leads with clarinetist Ben Goldberg and Be Bread, a quintet with trumpeter Cuong Vu and bassist Stomu Takeishi. Since 1991, she has appeared on more than 30 critically acclaimed recordings, including 17 as a leader or co-leader. Based in Berkeley since 2004, Melford is an Assistant Professor of Improvisation and Jazz in UC Berkeley's Music Department.

[www.myramelford.com](http://www.myramelford.com)

[www.cryptogramophone.com](http://www.cryptogramophone.com)

[www.palmetto-records.net](http://www.palmetto-records.net)

## **Mark Dresser**

A central figure in avant garde jazz for more than three decades, Los Angeles-native Mark Dresser emerged out of the vital but often overlooked Southern California free jazz scene in the early 1970s through his work in drummer Stanley Crouch's Black Music Infinity, a seminal avant-garde ensemble featuring cornetist Bobby Bradford, altoist Arthur Blythe, flutist James Newton and reed player David Murray. Moving to New York in 72 he forged the beginnings of life long musical relationships with Ray Anderson, Anthony Davis, Gerry Hemingway, and Mark Helias. Relocating once again to New York in the mid-80's, he spent nine years in the prolifically recorded quartet of saxophonist/composer Anthony Braxton, while forging deep ties with a myriad of creative musicians including, Jane Ira Bloom, Tim Berne, Dave Douglas, Marty Ehrlich, Fred Frith, Earl Howard, Denman Maroney, Ned Rothenberg, and John Zorn. Dresser is also a founding member of the influential ARCADO string trio with Mark Feldman and Hank Roberts. Whether performing in jazz or new music settings, playing a solo recital with custom-designed electronics or a multimedia project with his own ensembles, Dresser approaches every musical situation with probing intelligence and dazzling aural intuition. A Professor of Music at his alma mater, UC San Diego, Dresser has appeared in over 100 CDs including ten as a leader and a staggering array of musical personalities, and is a highly regarded composer who has received numerous commissions.

[www.mark-dresser.com](http://www.mark-dresser.com)

[www.cryptogramophone.com](http://www.cryptogramophone.com)

## **Matt Wilson**

Matt Wilson is considered one of the most creative jazz artists of his generation. He allows any musical setting to flow and explore with child-like fascination. His versatility and enthusiasm has been welcomed by a wide range of ensembles including those led by Dewey Redman, Lee Konitz, Charlie Haden, Joe Lovano, Denny Zeitlin, Frank Kimbrough, Dena Derose, Ted Nash, Bill Mays and many others. Wilson has appeared on over 165 recordings as a sideman and has recorded 7 acclaimed recordings for Palmetto records. He currently leads three ensembles that perform worldwide- Arts and Crafts, the Matt Wilson Quartet and the Carl Sandburg Project as well as being a co-leader of Trio M. Wilson has been voted #1 Rising Star Drummer for the past 5 years in the DownBeat Critic's Poll and his group, Arts and Crafts, was voted #1 Rising Star Small Group in the 2007 poll. The Jazz Journalists Association voted Matt Wilson Drummer of the Year in 2003.

[www.mattwilsonjazz.com](http://www.mattwilsonjazz.com)

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