

The Jazz Session

with Jason Crane



Jason's Notes: Oct. 26, 2009

This is the **final week for the listener survey**. It's got 10 questions and takes just a few minutes to finish. Please help me improve *The Jazz Session* by taking the survey:

<http://thejazzsession.com/survey>

This is also **ECM Week** on *The Jazz Session*. The record label ECM has strongly supported the show since the very beginning. In fact, TJS #3 featured John Abercrombie, who returns this week for TJS #103. Also this week, ECM artists Cymin Samawatie of the band Cyminology, and multi-instrumentalist John Surman.

To celebrate ECM Week, ECM and I are **giving away a CD each day this week**. The CD, *Anniversary Waltz*, features 9 tracks from ECM albums released this fall, including the new CDs from Abercrombie and Surman. To enter the contest, send an email to contest@thejazzsession.com with "ECM" in the subject line. I'll draw a winner at random each day, Monday-Friday. Good luck!

My latest "**Jazz Don't Hurt**" column for **Popdose.com** is an overview of three Joni Mitchell albums that feature strong contributions from jazz players and the language of improvisation. The three albums are *Hejira*, *Mingus*, and *Shadows and Light*. You'll find it and my previous columns in the "Jazz Don't Hurt" series here:

<http://popdose.com/tag/jazz-dont-hurt/>

This week on the show: Cymin Samawatie (TJS #101, Monday), John Surman (TJS #102, Wednesday), and John Abercrombie (TJS #103, Friday).

Next week: Ben Perowsky (TJS #104, Monday), Steve Lehman (TJS #105, Wednesday) and Patti Wicks (TJS #106, Friday).

Peace, love and jazz,

Jason Crane
Host/Producer
The Jazz Session

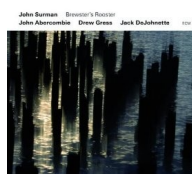
"ECM Week" on *The Jazz Session*:



TJS #101: Cyminology. Cymin Samawatie was born in Germany to Iranian parents, and that mix of cultures informs the music of her band, Cyminology. On their third CD, and their first for ECM, *Cyminology* (ECM, 2009), the quartet explores the poetry of Rumi, Hafiz and Forugh Farrokhzad, combining these disparate poetic influences with a

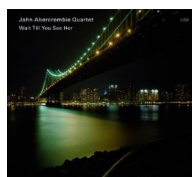
rich palette of composed and improvised music. In this interview, Samawatie talks about her culturally rich upbringing; the nature of her compositions; and why Cyminology can't play in Iran. **SHOW AVAILABLE NOW.**

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TJS #102: John Surman. John Surman is a composer with a broad and multi-hued musical palette. He's written for everything from solo saxophone to string quartet to choir with organ to contemporary dance. On *Brewster's Rooster* (ECM, 2009), Surman reunites with longtime musical partners Jack DeJohnette and John Abercrombie

(accompanied by bassist Drew Gress) for a quartet album that explores group interplay. In this interview, Surman talks about finding a place in his music for his disparate influences; why he writes for many types of ensembles; and why he doesn't play in the U.S. more often. **SHOW AVAILABLE STARTING 10/28/09.**



TJS #103: John Abercrombie. John Abercrombie returns with *Wait Till You See Her* (ECM, 2009), another album of gorgeous, tuneful music from his quartet, featuring Mark Feldman on violin, Joey Barron on drums, and new band member Thomas Morgan on bass. In this interview, Abercrombie talks about how subtle movements in the audience impact

a performance; the label "chamber jazz" and whether it applies to his band; and his role as the evil Donald Dastardly in the radio drama *Harry Lovett, Man Without A Country*, which also featured the voices of John Surman and Jack DeJohnette. (On a personal note, John was on *The Jazz Session* #3, back when no one had ever heard of this show. I'm grateful for his early support of *The Jazz Session*, and it's very gratifying to have him back here 100 episodes later.) **SHOW AVAILABLE STARTING 10/30/09.**