



the space between us
akropolis reed quintet

1. Jacob TV - Jesus Is Coming 9:22

David Biedenbender - Refraction 10:25

2. I. Death Metal Chicken 1:41

3. II. Kyrie for Machaut and Pärt 4:32

4. III. Goat Rodeo 4:12

5. Rob Deemer - Gallimaufry 10:00

Gregory Wanamaker -

The Space Between Us 16:33

6. I. Coming Together 1:39

7. II. As One 2:53

8. III. Remembering 5:52

9. IV. Ever Constant 3:02

10. V. The more we change... 3:07

**11. John Steinmetz - Sorrow & Celebration
for Reed Quintet & Audience 14:50**

Total 61:10

Producer:

Courtney Snyder Ng

Production Assistants

Theresa Zick & Nick Smith

Recorded at

Bethlehem United Church of Christ in
Ann Arbor, May 2016

Recorded, Edited, Mixed & Mastered

Dave Schall Acoustic

Photos

Heather Nash Photography

Album Art

Kari Landry

*Sorrow & Celebration for Reed Quintet &
Audience* was recorded live thanks to
the greater Ann Arbor community.

Innova Director: Philip Blackburn,
Operations Director: Chris Campbell
Publicist: Steve McPherson, Innova is supported
by an endowment from the McKnight Foundation.



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Tim Gocklin **Oboe**
Matt Landry **Saxophone**
Ryan Reynolds **Bassoon**
Andrew Koepp **Bass Clarinet**
Kari Landry **Clarinet**

Crego

John Steinmetz - sorrow & celebration



A journey from conflict to resolution. With catharsis, trepidation, and triumph, we explore our place in the world and how music brings us closer together.

Why The Space Between Us

One morning in August 2014, we gathered around our laptops to hold a Skype meeting with composer John Steinmetz to discuss the content of his first reed quintet composition. The backdrop to our conversation was obvious. Just days prior, unrest had broken out in a small suburb of St. Louis called Ferguson. About a month earlier, a man named Eric Garner died in police custody in New York City. Public and resonant events like this continued to occur, and it seemed like we started counting them more. Hours before one February 2016 performance we gave of John's piece in Sarasota, FL, 6 people were shot and killed in Kalamazoo, MI, a town just a couple hours from where we are based.

These events illustrate a truth about human beings, that while we are so much the same, our differences are undeniable. As a quintet, we deal with this reality personally and collectively. We told John, Greg, David, and Rob that we wanted to make a CD about it. Some of the music they wrote for us is soulful, while some is abstract. Some is jarring, and some is heartfelt. *The Space Between Us* is a picture of our changing world. We hope it provides a space for reflection, and perhaps, your own kind of resolution.

1. Jesus Is Coming (2003)

This is the first reed quintet recording of **Jacob TV's (ter Veldhuis)** 2003 work, *Jesus is Coming*. Veldhuis created the tape out of two sound samples from the streets of New York City following the 9/11 attacks—an angry street evangelist in Times Square and a small salvation army choir. The work is glued together by a groove Veldhuis created by looping the baby talk of two Dutch girls, 18-month-old Welmoed and 2-month-old Amber. From the world's anger, sadness, and uncertainty, Veldhuis saw and heard many different responses, and this piece provides an aural picture of that cacophony. www.jacobtv.net

2-4. Refraction (2015) Akropolis commission

- I. Death Metal Chicken
- II. Kyrie for Machaut and Pärt
- III. Goat Rodeo

Refraction is **David Biedenbender's** portrait of some of the conflicting but coexisting influences from his world. Inspired by a viral YouTube video, "Death Metal Chicken" captures the hilarity and absurdity of a rooster crowing to overdubbed death metal music (of course!), and the humans who watch him on their screens. "Goat Rodeo" mirrors this, but with hues of dubstep, funk, and musical pointillism, creating the image of a relentless but ineffective attempt to come together. Gluing together the tattered shreds of sounds in these outer movements is the contemplative "Kyrie". www.davidbiedenbender.com

5. Gallimaufry (2015) Akropolis commission

In *Gallimaufry*, **Rob Deemer** told us he imagined a giant "Dr. Seuss-like" instrument that could do crazy things with its whole, but also break into its parts, and then reassemble itself. Rob observed the dexterity of the reed quintet lineup, as well as its contradictory nature: a cohesion of woodwind instruments all producing sound the same way, but emitting five completely different colors and personalities. The word "gallimaufry" means hodge-podge, or, a gumbo or stew. www.robdeemer.com

6-10. The Space Between Us (2015) Akropolis commission

- I. Coming Together
- II. As One
- III. Remembering
- IV. Ever Constant
- V. The more we change...

Gregory Wanamaker composed the title track, *The Space Between Us*, using a purely abstract musical concept representative of each movement title. In a single, connected idea, serialism coalesces into kinetic tonality, which calms into reflection, and finally climaxes with triumph. Throughout the work there is reference to each member of the ensemble as an individual entity, but the overall emphasis is upon their interactions with each other through counterpoint to create a single unified soundscape. www.gregorywanamaker.com



11. Sorrow & Celebration for Reed Quintet & Audience

(2015) *Akropolis commission*

John Steinmetz decided we would incorporate the audience directly in the performance of his new piece, *Sorrow and Celebration*. We've all been to concerts and "participated" in the music-making before, clapping along or echoing the indelible lyrics to a famous chorus. *Sorrow and Celebration*, however, requires us to teach several musical components to the audience before we perform the piece. Using hand signals and some conducting, we're then able to perform the work, live, with our audience, which we have done more than 30 times around the country in communities of all stripes. As performers on the CD, we wish to list the audience members present at our recording session who made this CD not only a possibility, but a sheer joy. www.johnsteinmetz.org

Bob Kinsey; Madison Keezer; Matt Birmingham; Julie, Ben, and Jenna Cohen; Alison René; Charles Griffith; Mari Suzuki; Erika Koeppé; Pat Wilson; Alan and Barb Brace; Ed and Lynne Fowlkes; Jim and Linda Oldfield; Alice Schuman; Maggie McMullen; Jim and Barb Higdon; Linda Snelling; Lois Wright; Charlotte Pierson; Drew and Ryan Sauer; Mary Pratt; Annette Pratt; Mark Clague; Cindy Darling-Fisher; Colleen Dolan-Greene; Walter R. Greene II; Susan, Bill, and Natalie Booth; Aaron Hendrix; Bernadette Durkin; Sipkje Pesnichak; Sagar Anupindi; Betsy McCabe; Scott Horowitz; Leah Weinberg; Mary Browning; Anita Salustro; Pam Dion; Sue Burton; Emily Milner; Jim Fuqua; John Ryan; Janet Hildebrandt; Sabine Spadmann; Emily Ouellette; Christian Green; Jessica Gibson; Susan Weisberg; Mitchell Green; Joey Velez; John and Samantha Beresford; Tom Beresford; Karen and Bob Koeppé; Donald Dillon

