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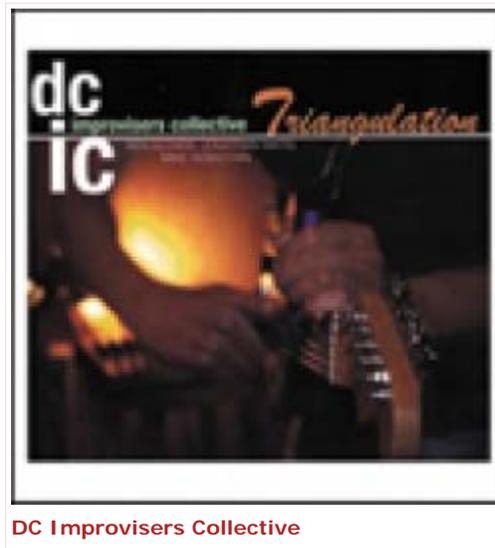
Discourse Feature

Discourse For April 1, 2008

DC Improvisers Collective

Triangulation (Improv Arts Inc.)

While the DC Improvisers Collective might be best known for working as Fugazi bassist Joe Lally's backing band in 2007, these guys throw down a scattered and shrieking mix of jazz, rock and noise on *Triangulation*. Fans of improvised music will love the rapport this trio (guitar, drums and reeds) seem to share as disconnected pattering and moaning suddenly locks into a groove before slowly starting to fray at the edges. The issue here seems to be that the boys in DCIC are keeping improv as a fringe genre, and while current fans of the style would want nothing less, it makes accessibility to newcomers or casual listeners very difficult.



Maybe it's the improvised status of the band, or maybe it's a testament to the talented musicians who form its ranks, but *Triangulation* features an eclectic, albeit often bizarre, set of sounds. See the *Arabian Nights* soundtrack written by freeform jazz artists sound of "Then Don't Listen," the scratchy, screaming fuzz of artsy rocker "Punk Jazz," and the nightclub shuffle of "Mourning in America," for example. It's the kind of stuff that makes improvisation so exciting in the first place, even if that experimental nature is also what turns so many people away. - *Matt Whelihan*

Van Morrison

Keep It Simple (Lost Highway)

At a young age when most people are mapping out their futures, Van Morrison had already been entertaining Belfast audiences for half a dozen years and was in the process of influencing generations of musicians with his groundbreaking blues-rock band Them. And now at an age when most men are contemplating their options for a quiet retirement, Morrison is looking back on a lifetime of important musical achievements (last year saw the release of an unbelievable