

Hugh Fraser & The Vancouver Ensemble of Jazz Improvisation

“V”

VEJI Update:

Since the release of VEJI's fourth album “V” of original Hugh Fraser compositions in June of 1999, c.d. sales are now in the thousands. In addition, all of the music on “V” is available from Norkey Music and is being bought up by college and professional bands at an alarming rate.

The release of “V” was supported with an eight city national Canadian Jazz Festival tour that without exception received standing ovations. The performance in Montreal was recorded and broadcast on CBC national radio at a later date.

As the initial excitement of the release of “V” and the national tour is slowly fading, Hugh Fraser & VEJI have been invited on the strength of their live performances at the festivals and the recording, “V”, to tour Brazil in May 2001. This will be VEJI's first tour outside Canada since their 1985 appearance in New York City. Looking ahead, a workshop and performance of VEJI is being planned for August 2001 at the Lincoln Centre in New York City.

More immediatly, Hugh Fraser's largest composition to date, the Concerto for Jazz Orchestra, was recorded by VEJI at the CBC in December 2000, and is being broadcast on New Years Eve on CBC Radio 1 and 2 nation wide. Hugh hopes to release this exciting version of this large work that featured the regular members of VEJI plus special guests Brad Turner, Rod Borrie, Tilden Web, and others.

Now in their 21st year of regular performing and special presentations, VEJI's goal to present intense passion and sonic diversity by respecting the past, having fun in the present and looking forward to the future, is being practiced by this family of the West Coast's finest artist, all leaders in their own right.

The C.D. “V” represents these goals and displays the diversity that makes up the contemporary jazz musicains palette. Please listen to a little of each tune to get an overveiw of the stories presented on “V”.