

**8 Powerful improvisations from an ensemble celebrating over 40 years of music making**

# STRINGS

“String Things” was formed in the 1970’s. The players met and played in the context of Philipp Wachsmann’s Saturday Improvisation Workshops at the West Square Music Studio in south London. It was there that in 1974 we formed the improvisation AMO (Alternative Music Orchestra) which at times included as many as 30 musicians. In this context the trio BMW was formed – Ian Brighton, Marcio Mattos and Philipp Wachsmann. Soon after in 1975 this was joined by Trevor Taylor and the group was renamed “BMW & TT” later becoming “String Things” being descriptive of its lyrical, bowed, plucked legato and percussive nature. The group has made several recordings over the years.

Ian writes “We are close friends and although there have been times when we haven’t played that often, the bond is always there: a close empathy in what and how we play and the relationships with each of us to one another. Every improvisation is a meeting of old friends, as I feel is demonstrated on this album “Strings”. The music just flows and on this recording it reflects the changing dynamics of each individual as time has changed us yet thankfully we are still here, and so is our music.”

Philipp writes “It is exciting to see how a group might develop over 43 years during which there were periods when we did not play. In these interims each musician, as well as aging, had a wealth of new experiences elsewhere. Ideas were worked through, preferences matured and discarded, skills expanded, choices further considered ....

An issue for long standing groups is whether habits are formed which hinder the making of new music ‘in the present’ – the need to be present. In in coming back together now, new ground had formed, and a freshness found – reassuring for each of us in our individual musical journeys.”

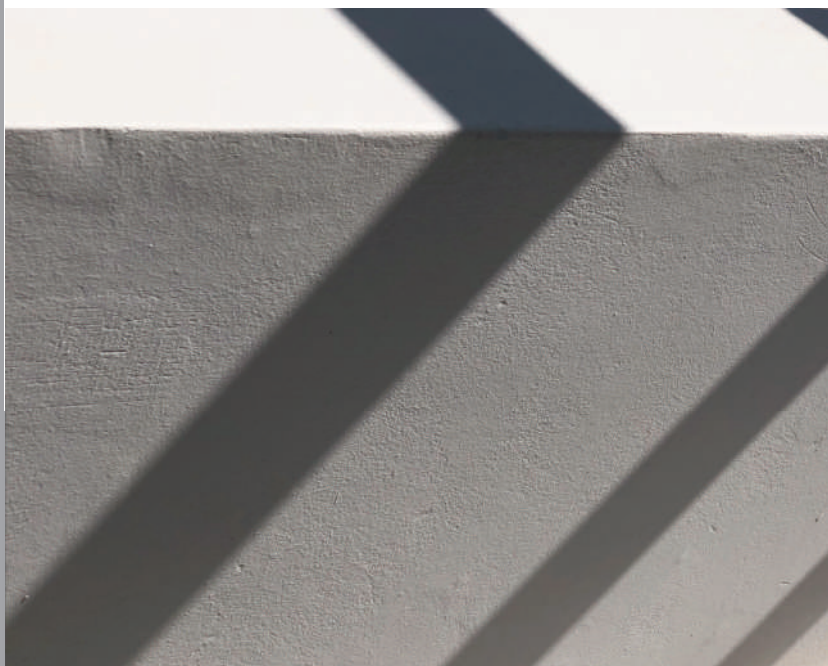
**PHILIPP WACHSMANN** VIOLIN - ELECTRONICS

**TREVOR TAYLOR** PERCUSSION - ELECTRONICS

**MARCIO MATTOS** BASS / CELLO - ELECTRONICS

**IAN BRIGHTON** ELECTRIC GUITAR

STRINGS WACHSMANN TAYLOR MATTOS BRIGHTON



FMRCD 496

