GLASGOW IMPROVISERS ORCHESTRA
WITH BARRY GUY: FALKIRK
(FMRC168-i0905)

Emma Roche (fl, baroque fl), Matthew Studdert-Kennedy (fl), Nick Fells (shakuhachi), Daniel Padden (cl, voc, perc), Nicola MacDonald (voc), Pete Dowling (as), Raymond MacDonald (a&ss), Graeme Wilson (t&bs), John Burgess (ts, bcl), Robert Henderson (tr), Matt Cairns (tr), George Murray (tr), George Burt (g), Neil Davidson (g), Peter Nicholson (cel), Una MacGlone (db), George Lyle (db), Mike Travis (dr), Bill Wells (keys), Maya Homburger (baroque v), Barry Guy (db)

The third recording from one of the most exciting groups in Scotland! GIO have amassed performances with Evan Parker, Maggie Nicols, Keith Tippett and John Surman and now here are some stunning dialogues with the worlds greatest virtuoso bass player Barry Guy!

An exceptional live recording, that also features, along with some of Scotlands most gifted improvisers, top pianist Bill Wells and violinist Maya Homburger. This is an example of how successful a large ensemble of improvised musicians can actually be.

The Glasgow Improvisers Orchestra performed with Barry Guy in Falkirk and Glasgow in October 2005. This CD is a recording of a concert we did together in Callendar House, Falkirk.

Over the years, Barry Guy has made a whole series of compositions using images from the work of the painter and percussionist Alan Davie, who was born in Grangemouth just three miles from Callendar House.

The score of Barry Guy’s piece Witch Gong Game II/10 consists of a set of little panels containing Alan Davie graphics indicating different kinds of music floating over a black void. The panels are all in contact with each other, sometimes along an edge, sometimes just at a corner. This is the message of the piece: contact with each other and a sense of community is what supports us in the darkness of an indifferent universe.

Barry was with us for a week, visiting the Antonine Wall and the Falkirk Wheel, drinking Deuchars IPA and Belhaven Best in the Wheatsheaf, rehearsing in the hall of the Old Parish Church in the very centre of the town, and doing concerts and workshops with the brilliant violinist Maya Homburger. We originally intended to do another of Barry’s compositions as well as Witch Gong Game II/10, but we decided that improvisation would be truer to the spirit of the project, and that’s the first track on the CD.