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Composer Gregg Hill & Cold Plunge Records  
Announces The New Release

# BROTHERS



Michigan based composer **Gregg Hill** has published 120 original jazz compositions across 3 volumes: *Outrospectives*, *Spontaneity*, and *Moonducks*, with a 4<sup>th</sup>, yet untitled volume to be released in 2020. Hill's first two books have yielded the album releases "Common Ground" (Origin Records), and "Dancing Light" (Cold Plunge Records), led by the unparalleled **Rodney Whitaker** and **Elden Kelly** respectively. Hill has inspired tremendous live performances by dozens of today's premier jazz performers, and has a number of pending projects in the works with his newly launched label, **Cold Plunge Records**. See [www.gregghilljazz.com](http://www.gregghilljazz.com) for further information.



**BROTHERS** is a meeting of the minds of some of Michigan's premier jazz performers. Many of these players have crossed paths in various configurations over the last couple of decades. The material ranges across the jazz spectrum, showcasing the band leaders' formidable arranging skills and versatility, and provides a platform for these talented players to put their own stamp on it. Gregg Hill quotes, "I was fortunate to record these fine players in a live setting, and there are moments when I felt I was capturing lightning in a bottle."

The first four tunes of this album are led by acclaimed guitarist and Michigan State University (MSU) Professor of Jazz **Randy Napoleon**. Known as a forward-thinking musician with a passion for the jazz tradition, guitarist Napoleon toured with the legendary singer/pianist Freddy Cole for many years. He has performed on *The Tonight Show*, *Late Night With David Letterman*, *The View*, *The Today Show*, and *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*. Napoleon has played or arranged on over seventy records, including the latest gem "Common Tones".

The second four tunes on this album are led by **Bill Heid**, a veteran pianist/vocalist. Born in Pittsburgh, Heid has performed throughout the U.S., Canada, South America, Europe, and across the Pacific. He has worked with such jazz greats such as Sonny Stitt, David "Fathead" Newman, Rodney Whitaker, Grant Green and Bruce Foreman.

Drummer **Randy Gelispie** (or "Uncle G" as he is known to his students) is considered a jazz icon. He is also an MSU Professor of Jazz, and has been a professional jazz drummer since he started playing with a 10-piece band in the ninth grade. Gelispie has traveled on the road with Wes Montgomery, Sonny Stitt, Dinah Washington, Etta Jones, Lou Donaldson and Gene Ammons.

**Randy Napoleon** band leader and guitar, **Paul Keller** bass, **Randy Gelispie** drums, **Rick Roe** piano. *Recorded Live, November 9th, 2018*

- 1) **The Lost Tune** ..... 6:02
- 2) **Portrait of the Artist** ..... 6:18
- 3) **Ray-Dias** ..... 5:22
- 4) **Pointe Being** ..... 7:14

**Bill Heid** band leader, piano and vocal, **Paul Keller** bass, and **Randy Gelispie** drums. *Recorded Live, April 8th, 2019*

- 5) **Dirge** ..... 8:04
- 6) **Common Ground** ..... 8:32
- 7) **The Lost Tune** ..... 8:20
- 8) **Out Here on the Highway** ..... 6:17

String bassist **Paul Keller** is well-known for his magnificent 15-piece Orchestra, which he has expertly led every Monday in Ann Arbor since 1988. Keller is a crack jazz composer and arranger. He has traveled the world with Diana Krall, Russell Malone, Eddie Higgins and John Pizzarelli. Over the years he has accompanied a long list of jazz luminaries.

**Rick Roe** is a veteran jazz pianist, composer and performer. He has produced and co-produced ten albums of original compositions, and arranged jazz standards with some of the most accomplished jazz musicians in the world. Rick is an acclaimed "musicians" musician, known for his Monkish themes and a striking original style of his own.



**Label:** Cold Plunge Records  
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