

# FRANK CARLBERG

## JAZZ PIANIST AND COMPOSER

## recent press

"Frank Carlberg sculpts Monk and other jazz standards by brilliantly spacing the musical materials, which make him one of the truest interpreters of the repertoire today. To begin with, he swings incessantly with precision, stubbornness and power. He reflects on each note, implies the obvious, emphasizes the surprises."

>> Philippe Meziat, Jazz Magazine

"***The American Dream*** (2009) is one of those rare recordings that challenges as much as it entertains. Carlberg and Correa really nail the feeling and intent behind Creeley's verse... Carlberg, Correa, Hebert, Cheek, and Sarin turn in some amazing individual and ensemble performances -- some of the playing here just left me shaking my head in pleased disbelief. Highly recommended."

>> Dave Wayne, jazzreview.com

"...a masterful job blending the music and words, the results sounding so organic. The melodies wrap around the words with ease and the solos never seem obligatory. His music is melodic, challenging, intelligent, and fiercely original. Many projects that attempt to blend poetry with creative music sound stilted but, over his career, Carlberg has proven that one can take these two art forms and make something quite special."

>> Richard Kamins, The Hartford Courant

"Carlberg's... sympathetic and almost telepathic interplay with Correa -- who charges these poems with her sensual vocals but also alternates with casual delivery -- is simply arresting. His trusty and tight interplay with all the musicians turns this suite into a masterful feast of music that suggests a beautiful portrait of Creeley's poetry -- joyous, reflective, plaintive, hopeful, and always radiating with great humanity."

>> Eyal Hareuveni, All About Jazz

"...an existential landscape perfectly suited for interpreting Creeley's craggy, downtrodden, realistic words that shred dreams, hope, disillusion, and fear into smaller components that beg to be exploded by a simple twist of fate, stereotype, or resolution of human spirit. It's that delicate balance of skepticism and eternal forward motion that identifies what the band, and especially Correa, does with these musings on life in our dysfunctional nation... A musical and artistic triumph... it puts an emphatic period on his career, and a big feather in Carlberg's cap."

>> Michael G. Nastos, allmusic

"...for those who long for jazz music of compositional and improvisational substance that goes beyond the pale; this is a statement not to be missed."

>> Thomas R. Erdmann, jazzreview.com

"The jazz on this marvelous little CD is absolutely astounding... I give it a MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!"

>> Dick Metcalf, Improvijazzation Nation

### ***State of the Union*** (2006)

"That his music can transport such weight on the same wings that convey the metaphysical spirit of other texts is testament to solid instincts, to his continual discovery of how to hear the whole world through his art."

>> Jason Weiss, Shuffle Boil -- a magazine for poets and musicians

### ***In the Land of Art*** (2003)

"...What makes this work so well is that Carlberg and his bandmates have a keen sense for that which Allen Ginsberg termed 'spontaneous bop prosody' -- the variations in pitch and rhythm that served as the basis for the beat's art. Christine Correa's exquisitely expressive voice alternates between poet and instrument on these cuts while saxmen Chris Cheek and Andrew Rathbun showcase instrumental and interpretative abilities that are wide ranging."

"on-the-mark musical, vocal and piano interpretations, adventurous rhythm section explorations and expressive dual sax playing."

>> Elliott Simon, All About Jazz