



SCATTER THE ATOMS THAT REMAIN Redefines Transformative Spiritual Music

Spirit and Magic - what lies beyond mere intellect. The soul - the heart - the qualities that set us free ... this transformative power of music is what SCATTER THE ATOMS THAT REMAIN is all about.

SCATTER THE ATOMS THAT REMAIN is Franklin Kiermyer - drums & leader and Davis Whitfield - piano & musical director with Isaiah Collier, Linda Sikhakhane or Emilio Modeste on saxophone and Geraud Portal on bass. Also appearing with special guests as a quintet or sextet, recent performances have included headlining the inaugural Unity Festival – Jazz at Lincoln Center New York, January 2024 with Randy Brecker, Billy Harper, Isaiah Collier and Nat Reeves and a tour of Europe with Gary Bartz. Randy Brecker and Isaiah Collier were in the band when Scatter headlined the 2024 Java Jazz Festival in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Scatter The Atoms has begun to garner great praise and magnetize a loyal following : “A sense of shared catharsis through music that is at once majestic, ferocious, and relatable ... the words “ecstasy” and “ecstatic” appear almost predictably, but sometimes a word is just right. Scatter The Atoms That Remain channel the kind of beautiful, disciplined intensity exemplified by late John Coltrane. This type of universal, non-denominational spirituality simply feels good.” *Jazz At Lincoln Center*

Scatter’s latest album, Emancipation Suite, was voted one of the best albums of 2022 by Down Beat Magazine. Their new album, One Is Love, will be released in early 2025 and features a surprising and wide-ranging roster of guest artists.

“Drummer Kiermyer thunders and clatters, generating multiple simultaneous pools of percussive activity that bubble and burst like lava pits. His parts heard without the others’ would be symphonic. Here they dominate, his skins perhaps a touch tighter than Elvin’s, his cymbals slightly brighter, his demands of heroic response just as dramatic. Scatter the Atoms That Remain calls for universal freedoms such as it enacts.” Howard Mandel - Downbeat Magazine

Drummer, composer and bandleader **Franklin Kiermyer**, born in Montreal in 1956, is known mostly for the expansive style, distinct sound and intense passionate energy of his drumming and the spiritual focus of his music. Kiermyer originally came to prominence following the release of his album Solomon’s Daughter, featuring saxophonist Pharaoh Sanders. Since then, his many albums and performances have garnered international accolades. “Kiermyer plays and composes with an almost evangelical belief in jazz as a form of pure inspiration.” *Entertainment Weekly* “Drummer Franklin Kiermyer is that rare jazzman – blessed with the ecstatic quality of his free-bop attack.” *Rolling Stone Magazine* “Kiermyer supercharges spiritual modality ... he plays with volcanic authority.” *Down Beat*

Pianist and composer **Davis Whitfield**, was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 1993 and grew up in Jersey City, just across the Hudson from Greenwich Village, NY. Davis has performed at many leading venues worldwide with Pharaoh Sanders, George Coleman, Jeff Tain Watts, Fatoumata Diawara and Robert Glasper, to name just a few. Working very closely with Franklin Kiermyer since 2016, he has already developed a profoundly distinctive voice of his own characterized by a depth and reach that belies his age. Davis was on piano in Pharaoh Sanders’ last performance just weeks before his passing in September of 2022 at Gilles Peterson’s We Out Here festival.

You can hear for yourselves and feel it too - this music is new - not like anything else. What it does is palpable. That’s the point - what it DOES - how it makes you feel. It causes an opening. Like faithful prayer, seance and ritual, but not religious. Spiritual. Those in the know see where it’s coming from, those that are brave see where it’s going. The spirited are moved beyond thought. That’s its purpose. Fearless and uncompromising, this music is deeply rooted in our shared ancestry. The legacy that all but went South after the 60’s went underground, but never disappeared. The bar was raised so high, no one could get there. Young musicians that were so deeply compelled by Supreme Love and the Sun Ship had to follow another stream to take the edge off, or they turned away from tonality and pulse, hoping to ascend by speaking in tongues. As many have said, neither succeeded. Scatter The Atoms That Remain does.

As Turiyasangitananda Alice Coltrane pointed out years after her husband John passed, “the burden of continuance is up on your shoulders. You all are going to have to do your singular search.” It’s that singular search that’s led to this. Scatter The Atoms That Remain now shoulders that burden of continuance with open hearts.

EMANCIPATION SUITE : Franklin Kiermyer - drums • Davis Whitfield - piano • Emilio Modeste - tenor • Otto Gardner - bass
Mobility Music MM211015 - 2021

EXULTATION : Franklin Kiermyer - drums • Davis Whitfield - piano • Jovan Alexandre - saxophone • Otto Gardner - bass
Dot Time Records DT9085 - 2019