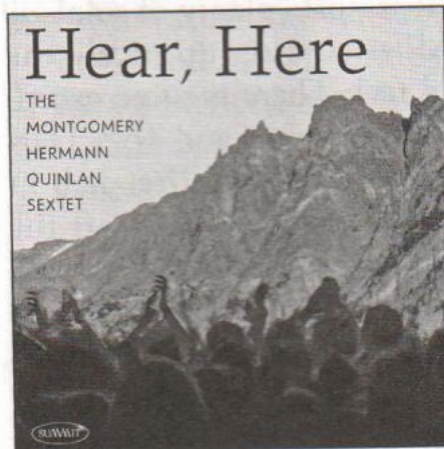


The Montgomery Hermann Quinlan Sextet—Hear, Here
Bob Montgomery, trumpet; Al Hermann, trombone; Josh Quinlan, alto saxophone and tenor saxophone; Dave Hanson, piano; Ken Walker, bass; Todd Reid, drums
DCD 650 (CD); Summit Records; PO Box 26850 Tempe, AZ
85285-6850; 1-800-543-5156;
sales@summitrecords.com; <http://summitrecords.com>

Lenner/Lewis (McNeil): Just Friends; Quinlan (Montgomery):
Gos-Paul; Kern (Montgomery): All the Things You Are;
Montgomery: Because She Cares; Mobley (McNeil):
This I Dig of You; Jobim (McNeil): O Grande Amor;
Coltrane (Montgomery): Mr. Syms; Davis (McNeil):
Blues by 5; Jenkins (Montgomery): High Life.



The Montgomery Hermann Quinlan Sextet features some of the best jazz musicians on the Colorado Front Range. This treat of an album contains jazz standards intermingled with a couple of new additions. The sextet creates a delightfully relaxed mood with their cohesive playing and thoughtful delicacy. Hermann's distinguished tone and Montgomery's fluid lines create a lush character that sets this group apart from similar ensembles. The familiar charts have some unique re-arrangements, and the new tunes contain genuine originality. If you are looking for lots of notes or screaming upper-register playing, this album is not for you; the sextet keeps you listening by their fresh interpretations and beautifully sculpted phrases. The group is grounded by an unwavering rhythm section comprised of Hanson, Walker, and Reid. The horn players remain deliberate and concise with their solos that contribute to the friendly feeling. The highlights of the album are Montgomery's original *Because She Cares* and *This I Dig of You*. Montgomery's tune has a stunning melody that contrasts with a strong underlying rhythmic pulse creating palpable tension. *This I Dig of You* drives forward nicely and features nearly everyone trading voices. All in all, the album is a great addition for anyone who appreciates mature, lovely playing. (Erik Horne, freelance artist, Cincinnati, OH)