

## Review - Percussive Notes

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Jazz Behind Bars

Lawless Percussion and Jazz

Self-published

Included in the unique percussion/jazz combo Lawless Percussion and Jazz are Larry Lawless (marimba, xylophone and vibraphone), Doug Walter (marimba and vibes), Rich MacDonald (MalletKAT bass and drumset), Bart Elliott (MalletKAT bass, bass marimba and drumset), and David Bugher (vibes and MalletKAT bass). All of the selections are original compositions by the members and include "Happy Thoughts" and "Insomnia" by Bugher, "Sharptooth" and "The Tortoise and the Hare" by MacDonald, "Tone Down" and "Hevy Revy" by Elliott, "The Doctor and the Deacon" and "Attack of the 10 Octave Marimba" by Lawless, and "Pourpres Minus Rouges" and "Homonyme Fils" by Walter.

As a result of the eclectic nature of the composers, the diverse compositions reflect only one commonality among themselves— that of excellent musicianship and gifted improvisational solos from several keyboard soloists (both marimba and vibes). Of additional note are the solid drumset grooves by Elliott and MacDonald and the impeccable and realistic, foundational MalletKAT bass lines.

The overall effect of the CD is one of very clean performances and inspired individualistic compositional passion.

— Jim Lambert

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