
SONNY SIMMONS

Sessionography

A Work in progress by Julien Palomo

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Last update October 22, 2005

Artist : born Huey Simmons, August 4, 1933, Sicily Island, LA.

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40.	01.07(?)	00	TCHANGODEI	Perfekte Leere -> LIEBE	2002
41.	01.07.27-28		SONNY SIMMONS	Mixolydis	2002
42.	01.08.10, 01.08.27		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Cosmosamatics II	2002
43.	02.01.29, 02.02.12		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Cosmosamatics Three (studio)	2004
44.	02.04.00		SONNY SIMMONS/BRANDON EVANS	Duo 2002	2002
45.	02.08.06		RENEGADE SOCIETY	Renegade Society New York 2002 ; La Société de Renégat	2003
46.	03.01.25		SONNY SIMMONS	SOLO Out Into The Andromeda ; La Société de Renégat	2003
47.	03.02.08		ANTHONY BRAXTON/SONNY SIMMONS/BRANDON EVANS SEXTET		2003
48.	03.03.07		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Cosmosamatics Three (live)	2004
49.	03.03.10		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Live At Banlieues Bleues	2003
50.	03.03.24-25		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Magnitudes	2005
51.	03.07.20		RENEGADE SOCIETY	The Internal Renegade Society NYC 2003 vol.1	2004
52.	03.09.05		RENEGADE SOCIETY	The Internal Renegade Society NYC 2003 vol.2	2004
53.	04.03.09		SONNY SIMMONS/JEFFREY HAYDEN SHURDUT	The Future Is Ancient	2004
54.	04.04.29		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Reeds & Birds (live)	2004
55.	04.09.09		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Reeds & Birds (studio)	2004
56.	04.11.13		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Zetrons	2005
57.	04.11.22		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Zetrons	2005
58.	04.11.25		THE COSMOSAMATICS	Zetrons	2005
59.	04.12.15		SONNY SIMMONS	The Traveller; <Duets>; <Last Man Standing>	2005-2007
60.	05.01.29-30		SONNY SIMMONS	The Traveller; <Duets>; <Last Man Standing>	2005-2007
61.	05.03.08		SONNY SIMMONS	The Traveller; <Duets>; <Last Man Standing>	2005-2007

B. Soundtrack

	Rec. date	Leader		1st issue
62.	98.12.00	SONNY SIMMONS/GILBERT SIGRIST	Jours Tranquilles à Sarajevo	2003

C. Documentary films on Sonny Simmons

	Shooting	Director		1st issue
63.	late 80's, early 90's	(?)	Everybody Needs A Little Heaven	1990's?
64.	97.00.00	AL DOUGLAS	The Sonny Simmons Saxophone Workshop	1997
65.	99-00.00.00	BOB BREWSTER	In Modern Time	2004
66.	01-02.00.00	BRANDON EVANS	The Multiple Rated-X Truth	2003
67.	02-04.00.00	FRANÇOIS LUNEL	Together With Sonny Simmons (Life In Paris, Winter 2002)	2004

D. Unissued ; bootlegs ; and wonders

	Rec. date	Leader	1st issue
68.	63.05.00	SONNY ROLLINS	(Unissued recording session)
69.	68.00.00	BILL DIXON	University Of The Streets Orchestra (private tape)
70.	70.00.00	BERT WILSON	Cosmic Communication (private tape)
71.	70.00.00	BERT WILSON	(Private tape)
72.	70(?) .00.00	JAMES ZITRO	Zytron Jam (private tape)
73.	70.06.19	BERT WILSON	The Age Of The Mutants (private tape)
74.	70.06.23	BERT WILSON	Berkeley Mutation Center Summer Festival (private tape)
75.	70-71(?) .12.17	BERT WILSON	Motational Symphonic Movement (private tape)
76.	71.11.28	BERT WILSON	The Work Is Erected For The Glory Of God - & To Groove Mankind (private tape)
77.	74.00.00	BERT WILSON	(Private tape)
78.	74.04.30	BERT WILSON	In Old Topanga (private tape)
79.	81.00.00	HI TIDE HARRIS	(Unissued recording session)
80.	88(?) .00.00	SONNY SIMMONS	Shipwrecked (unissued recording session)
81.	93(?) .00.00	SONNY SIMMONS	(Unissued recording session)
82.	98.12.00	SONNY SIMMONS/GILBERT SIGRIST	Jours Tranquilles à Sarajevo (outtakes)
83.	99.05.00	NEW MILLENIUM SAXOPHONE ORCHESTRA	(Unissued recording session)
84.	00.02.00	SONNY SIMMONS	(Unissued recording session)

E. Shows : the sessionography (coming soon)

A. Issued recordings

62.11.21

PRINCE LASHA/SONNY SIMMONS

- **Prince Lasha Quintet featuring Sonny Simmons**, *The Cry!*, Contemporary M-3610 (mono LP, USA), 1963
- **Prince Lasha Quintet featuring Sonny Simmons**, *The Cry!*, Contemporary S-7610 (stereo LP, USA), 1963
- **Prince Lasha Quintet featuring Sonny Simmons**, *The Cry!*, Original Jazz Classics OJCCD-1945-2 (CD), 2001

November 21, 1962

Contemporary Record's studio, Los Angeles, USA

1. Congo Call (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [5:02]
2. Bojangles (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [7:00]
3. Green And Gold (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [4:52]
4. Ghost Of The Past (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [4:59]
5. Red's Mo od (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [5:04]
6. Juanita (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [5:32]

7. Lost Generation (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [5:15]
8. A.Y. (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [4:46]

Prince Lasha : flute
Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Gary Peacock : bass
Mark Proctor : bass (#1, 3-6)
Gene Stone : drums

producer : Lester Koenig

63.05.00

PRINCE LASHA/SONNY SIMMONS/DON CHERRY/ CLIFFORD JORDAN

• **Prince Lasha** *, *It Is Revealed*, Zounds L71863 (LP, USA), 1963 (?) **

May 1963

Zounds studio, NYC, USA

1. Lost Generation [20:50]
2. The Trane [11:20]
3. Prelude To Bird [5:25]

Prince Lasha : flute
Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Clifford Jordan : tenor saxophone
Don Cherry : trumpet
Fred Lyman : fluegelhorn
Bill Wood : bass
Orville Harrison : bass
Charles Moffett : drums

producer : Fred Lyman

notes :

* : It is common practice among discographers to list Prince Lasha as the leader of this session. This short extract of a Fred Lyman interview suggests that this may not be exactly the case (courtesy of Ben Young and Marc Chaloin) : « ... mostly a jam-session [...] they were all in my studio, I don't know how they got these particular guys up there, it was probably Clifford Jordan got it together. And they just started to play and I started recording, and I played on it too, I played fluegelhorn on this track. And it turned out pretty good, [...] it was an example of what I liked to think music could be at that time. » According to Lyman, they picked up Don Cherry in the street...

** : No artwork is known for this record. Quoting the owner of a copy, it came in a cardboard sleeve, with few information on the label. To be confirmed (any photo of the label would be welcome).

63.07.03

ERIC DOLPHY

- *Iron Man*, Douglas International SD 755 (LP, USA), 1963 {1} *
- *Conversations*, Fred Miles FM-308 (LP, USA), 1964 {2} **

July 3, 1963 ***

Music Makers, Inc., NYC, USA

1. Burning Spear (Eric Dolphy) [11:54] {1}
2. Music Matador (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [9:32] {2}

Eric Dolphy : bass clarinet

Woody Shaw : trumpet (#1)

Clifford Jordan : tenor saxophone (#1), soprano saxophone (#2)

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Prince Lasha : flute

Garvin Bushell : bassoon (#1)

Bobby Hutcherson : vibraphone

Richard Davis : bass

Eddie Khan : bass (#1)

J.C. Moses : drums (#1)

Charles Moffett : drums (#2)

producer : Alan Douglas

notes :

* : Subsequent releases : Douglas 15 (LP) ; Douglas KZ30.873 (LP) ; CBS-Sony/Epic (J)ECPM-91 (LP) ; Douglas/Epic (J)53028 (LP) ; Douglas (F)500.003 (LP) ; Metronome 72659 (LP) ; Everest/Archive of Folk and Jazz Music FS-227 (LP) ; Mode Disques (F)CMDEVR9642 (LP) ; I grandi del Jazz (I)GdJ77 (LP) ; I grandi del Jazz (I)VDS325 (LP) ; Jitterbug Waltz DLP6002/3 (2LP) ; Celluloid CELL-5015 (LP), 1986, (CD), 1993 ; Restless 72659 (CD), 1993 ; WestWind 2057 (CD, Germany), 1995 ; Enigma 72659 (CD), 1996 ; Charly 147 (CD, UK), 1997 ; Get Back 2009 (LP, Italy), 2002 ; Varese 061242 (CD, USA) 2002 ; Fresh Sound FRSCD 1628 (CD, Spain), 2004.

** : Subsequent releases : VeeJay VJLP2503 (LP) ; Fontant (C)688.521ZL (LP) ; Exodus EX6005 (LP) ; The Eric Dolphy Memorial Album, Joy (E)JOYS116 (LP) ; DJM(E)22041 (LP) ; Epitaph E-4010 (LP) ; Affinity (E)AFF47 (LP) ; Trip TLP5012 (LP) ; Teichiku (J)KUX-53 (LP) ; ULS-1655 (LP) ; RCA (VeeJay) (J)RJL-2662 (LP) ; RJL-6003 (LP) ; Everest/Archive of Folk and Jazz Music FS-227 (LP) ; Mode Disques (F)CMDEVR9642 (LP) ; I grandi del Jazz (I)GdJ77 (LP) ; I grandi del Jazz (I)VDS325 (LP) ; Jitterbug Waltz DLP6002/3 (2LP) ; Celluloid CELL-5014 (LP), 1986, (CD), 1993 ; Restless 72660 (CD), 1993 ; Enigma 72660 (CD), 1996 ; Le Jazz CD14 (CD, France), 1996 ; Fuel 061134 (CD, USA), 2000 ; Fresh Sound FRSCD 1627 (CD, Spain), 2004.

*** : This session features tracks without Sonny Simmons.

63.05-08(?).00

BOSSA TRES

- **Prince Lasha, Clifford Jordan, Sonny Simmons & Bossa Très**, *Jazz Tempo, Latin Accents*, Audio Fidelity AFSD 6111 (stereo LP, USA), 1965 {1}
- **Eric Dolphy, Clifford Jordan, Prince Lasha, Sonny Simmons**, *Music Matador*, Fresh Sound Records FSR-CD 304 (CD, Spain), 1997 {2}
- **Prince Lasha, Clifford Jordan, Sonny Simmons & Bossa Très**, *Jazz Tempo, Latin Accents* (LP), 2004 *

May-August 1963 **
NYC, USA

1. Bottles (Luiz Parga/Sebastião Neto/Edison Machado) [2:13] {1}
2. Blue Monk (Thelonious Monk) [3:39] {1, 2}
3. Love For Sale (Cole Porter) [4:56] {1, 2}
4. Cutie (Sonny Rollins) [2:01] {1}
5. Moanin' (Bobby Timmons) [3:42] {1}
6. Well You Needn't (Thelonious Monk) [3:47] {1, 2}
7. Dahoud (Luiz Parga/Sebastião Neto/Edison Machado) [3:37] {1}
8. Epistle To Train (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [4:06] {1, 2}
9. Days Of Wine And Roses (Henry Mancini/J. Mercer) [3:17] {1}
10. Whisper Not (Benny Golson) [3:52] {1, 2}
11. Yesterdays (Jerome Kern/Oliver Halbach) [3:49] {1}
12. Minortory (Gigi Gryce) [2:26] {1}

Prince Lasha : flute (#2, 6, 8, 10)

Clifford Jordan : flute, tenor and soprano saxophones (#2-3, 6, 8, 10)

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone (#6, 8)

Luiz Parga : piano

Sebastião "Tião" Neto : bass

Edison Machado : drums

Producer : Herman D. Gimbel

notes :

* : This fac-simile of the Audio Fidelity LP was issued in 2004. Information needed.

** : 1965 is often given as the recording year. Actually, it only reflects the publishing date. According to MC, it must have been recorded during Sonny Simmons' first stay in New York, which didn't last more than five months, April to August, 1963.

63.08.08

ELVIN JONES/JIMMY GARRISON

- **Elvin Jones/Jimmy Garrison Sextet**, *Illumination !*, Impulse A-49 (mono LP, USA), 1963
- **Elvin Jones/Jimmy Garrison Sextet**, *Illumination !*, Impulse AS-49 (stereo LP, USA), 1963
- **Elvin Jones/Jimmy Garrison Sextet**, *Illumination !*, Impulse IMP 12502 (CD), 1998

August 8, 1963

Van Gelder Studio, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, USA

1. Nuttin' Out Jones (Prince Lasha) [5:32]
2. Oriental Flower (McCoy Tyner) [3:45]
3. Half And Half (Charles Davis) [6:25]
4. Aborigine Dance In Scotland (Sonny Simmons) [4:09]
5. Gettin' On Way (Jimmy Garrison) [5:11]
6. Just Us Blues (Charles Davis) [5:55]

Prince Lasha : clarinet, flute

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Charles Davis : baritone saxophone

McCoy Tyner : piano

Jimmy Garrison : bass

Elvin Jones : drums

producer : Bob Thiele

66.08.30

SONNY SIMMONS

- *Staying On The Watch*, ESP-DISK' 1030 (mono LP, USA), 1966
- *Staying On The Watch*, ESP-DISK' S-1030 (stereo LP, USA), 1966
- *Staying On The Watch*, ESP-DISK'/BASE ESPTS 1030 (LP, Italy), 1980
- *Staying On The Watch*, ESP/ZYX 1030-2 (CD, Germany), 1992
- *Staying On The Watch*, ESP-DISK'/Abraxas ESP 1030 (CD, Italy), 2002
- *Staying On The Watch*, ESP/Get Back GET 1030 (LP, Italy), 2002
- *Staying On The Watch*, ESP-Disk' ESPCD 1030 (CD-R, USA), 2003
- *The Complete ESP-Disk' Recordings*, ESP-Disk' ESP 4012 (2CD, USA), 2005 *

August 30, 1966

NYC, USA

1. Metamorphosis (Sonny Simmons) [11:38]
2. A Distant Voice (Sonny Simmons) [7:23]
3. City Of David (Sonny Simmons) [15:03]
4. Interplanetary Travelers (Sonny Simmons) [9:20]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Barbara Donald : trumpet
John Hicks : piano
Teddy Smith : bass
Marvin Patillo : drums

producer : Bernard Stollman

note :

* : This twoffer reissues ESP 1030 and ESP 1043 (*Music From The Spheres*) coupled with an interview directed by Michael "Dr. Bop" Anderson in the 80's. See **66.12.00** and **86.10.00** for the remainder of this release.

66.12.00

SONNY SIMMONS

- *Music From The Spheres*, ESP-DISK' 1043 (mono LP, USA), 1968
- *Music From The Spheres*, ESP-DISK' S-1043 (stereo LP, USA), 1968
- *Music From The Spheres*, ESP-DISK/BASE ESPTS 1043 (LP, Italy), 1980
- *Music From The Spheres*, ESP/ZYX 1043-2 (CD, Germany), 1993
- *Music From The Spheres*, ESP-DISK'/Abraxas ESP 1043 (CD, Italy), 2003
- *Music From The Spheres*, ESP/Get Back GET 1043 (LP, Italy), 2003
- *Music From The Spheres*, ESP-Disk' ESPCD 1043 (CD-R, USA), 2003
- *The Complete ESP-Disk' Recordings* , ESP-Disk' ESP 4012 (2CD, USA), 2005 *

December 1966

NYC, USA

1. Resolutions (Sonny Simmons) [8:36]
2. Zarak's Symphony (Sonny Simmons) [12:42]
3. Balladia (Sonny Simmons) [12:41]
4. Dolphy's Days (Sonny Simmons) [13:26]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone (#4)
Barbara Donald : trumpet
Mike Cohen : piano
Juney Booth : bass
James Zitro : drums

producer : Bernard Stollman

note :

* : This twoffer reissues ESP 1043 and ESP 1030 (*Staying On The Watch*) coupled with an interview directed by Michael "Dr. Bop" Anderson in the 80's. See 66.08.30 and 86.10.00 for the remainder of this release.

67.09.28-29

PRINCE LASHA/SONNY SIMMONS

- Prince Lasha & Sonny Simmons, *Firebirds*, Contemporary M-3617 (mono LP, USA), 1968
- Prince Lasha & Sonny Simmons, *Firebirds*, Contemporary S-7617 (stereo LP, USA), 1968
- Prince Lasha & Sonny Simmons, *Firebirds*, Original Jazz Classics OJCCD-1822-2 (CD), 1990

September 28-29, 1967

Contemporary Record's studio, Los Angeles, USA

1. The Island Song (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [8:47]
2. Psalms Of Solomon (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [10:45]
3. Prelude To Bird (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [3:53]
4. The Loved Ones (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [5:21]
5. Firebirds (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [10:05]

Prince Lasha : alto saxophone, flute, alto clarinet

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Bobby Hutcherson : vibraphone

Buster Williams : bass

Charles Moffett : drums

producer : Lester Koenig

69.02.10

SONNY SIMMONS

- *Manhattan Egos*, Arhoolie 8003 (LP, USA), 1969
- *Manhattan Egos*, Arhoolie CD 483 (CD), 2000 *

February 10, 1969

Sierra Sound Studios, Berkeley, USA

1. Coltrane In Paradise (Sonny Simmons) [11:46]
2. The Prober (Sonny Simmons) [9:28]
3. Manhattan Egos (Sonny Simmons) [8:22]
4. Seven Dances Of Salome (Sonny Simmons) [7:01]
5. Visions (Sonny Simmons) [6:08]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Barbara Donald : trumpet

Juma [Sultan] : bass, congo drums

Paul Smith : drums

Voodoo Bembe : congo drums (#4)

producer : Chris Strachwitz

note :

* : The CD reissue features 4 bonus tracks with Michael White. See **70.11.06** below.

69.07.31, 69.08.01

SONNY SIMMONS

- *Rumasuma*, Contemporary M-3623 (mono LP, USA), 1970
- *Rumasuma*, Contemporary S-7623 (stereo LP, USA), 1970

July 31 & August 1, 1969

Contemporary's studio, Los Angeles, USA

1. *Rumasuma* (Sonny Simmons) [10:52]
2. *Back To The Apple* (Sonny Simmons) [10:32]
3. *Reincarnation* (Sonny Simmons) [11:36]
4. *For Posterity* (Sonny Simmons) [10:38]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Barbara Donald : trumpet

Mike Cohen : piano

Jerry Sealund : bass

Bill Pickens : bass

Billy Higgins : drums

producer : Lester Koenig

70.07.24

BERT WILSON/SONNY SIMMONS/+V/A.

- Bert Wilson, Sonny Simmons, James Zitro, Bob Saunderson, Kenneth Jenkins, *The Mystic Rites Of Sound*, Dr. Wheelz' Archives #5 (CD-R, USA), 2005

July 24, 1970 *

Bert Wilson's home, Berkeley, USA

1. *Ritual Invocation Of The Wailing Demons/Communion Of The High Priests/... resolving to... An Unanswered Question* (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Bob Saunderson/Kenny Jenkins/James Zitro) [30:54]
2. *Spirits Of The Cosmic Voice... Dare Us To Be Free ---- And We---- AGREE!!* (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Bob Saunderson/Kenny Jenkins/James Zitro) [30:32]

Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Bob Saunderson : flute

Kenny Jenkins : bass violin
James Zitro : percussion

note :

* : The performance is part of what Bert Wilson calls the *Berkeley Mutation Center Summer Festival*. See section D., **70.07.23**, for the previous date.

70.09.20

PRINCE LASHA/FIREBIRDS

• **Prince Lawsha Firebirds**, *Live at Monterey Jazz Festival Vol.III*, Birdseye series 99001 (LP, USA), 1976

September 20, 1970 *
Monterey, USA

1. Scarlet Ibis Birds (Prince Lasha) [17:41]
2. Journey To Zoar (Prince Lasha) [14:12]

Prince Lasha : alto saxophone, flute
Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn
Bobby Hutcherson : vibraphone
Buster Williams : bass
Charles Moffett : drums

producer : Prince Lasha

note :

* : *Down Beat* add for the festival.

70.11.06

SONNY SIMMONS/MICHAEL WHITE

• *Manhattan Egos*, Arhoolie CD 483 (CD), 2000 *

November 6, 1970
Live at the Newman Center, Berkeley, USA

1. Beings Of Light (Sonny Simmons) [13:08]
2. Purple Rays (Sonny Simmons) [12:36]
3. Divine Magnet (Michael White) [3:21]
4. The Beauty Of Ibis (Sonny Simmons) [6:55]

Sonny Simmons : tenor saxophone
Michael White : violin

Kenny Jenkins : bass
Eddie Marshall : drums

producers : Chris Strachwitz and Sonny Simmons

note :

* : Reissue. See **69.02.10** for details.

70.11.24

SONNY SIMMONS

- **Huey Simmons**, *Burning Spirits*, Contemporary 7625-26 (2LP, USA), 1971
- **Sonny Simmons**, *Burning Spirits*, Contemporary CCD-7625/26-2 (CD), 2003

November 24, 1970

Contemporary's studio, Los Angeles, USA

1. Burning Spirits no. 1 (Sonny Simmons) [11:30]
2. New Newk (Sonny Simmons) [11:38]
3. Healing Rays (Sonny Simmons) [15:51]
4. Burning Spirits no. 2 (Sonny Simmons) [13:43]
5. Things And Beings (Sonny Simmons) [9:24]
6. E=mc2 (Sonny Simmons) [16:55]

Sonny (Huey) Simmons : tenor and alto saxophones, English horn

Barbara Donald : trumpet (#1, 3-4, 6)

Michael White : violin (#1, 3-6)

Lonnie Liston Smith : piano (#2, 5)

Richard Davis : bass

Cecil McBee : bass (#1, 3-6)

Clifford Jarvis : drums

producer : Lester Koenig

71.00.00

BERT WILSON/SONNY SIMMONS/+V/A.

- **Bert Wilson, Sonny Simmons, Barbara Donald, Bobby Natanson, Bobby Addison**, *Kozmic Communication*, Dr. Wheelz' Archives #4 (CD-R, USA), 2005

1971

Bert Wilson's home, Berkeley, USA

1. Kosmic Boogaloo (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Barbara Donald/Bobby Natanson) [15:40]

2. Telepathic Swing (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Barbara Donald/Bobby Natanson/Bobby Addison) [51:04]

Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone, bass clarinet

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Barbara Donald : trumpet

Bobby Addison : guitar (#2)

Bobby Natanson : percussion

71.12.24

BERT WILSON/SONNY SIMMONS/+V/A.

• Bert Wilson, Sonny Simmons, Smiley Winters, James Zitro, Barbara Donald, John Neumann, *Christmas With Uncle Sonny*, Dr. Wheelz' Archives #1&2 (2CD-R, USA), 2005 *

December 24, 1971

Bert Wilson's home, Berkeley, USA

1. Good Morning/Merry Xmas Bird (Birdfeathers) (Bert Wilson/Smiley Winters) [9:38]
2. Xmas Dance At The Officer's Club/Johnuary Tranetarium (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Smiley Winters/James Zitro) [30:31]

Bert Wilson : saxophones

Sonny Simmons : saxophones, bamboo flute (#2)

James Zitro : drums, percussion (#2)

William "Smiley" Winters : drums, percussion

note :

* : See rest of the session and comment on **71.12.25**.

71.12.25

BERT WILSON/SONNY SIMMONS/+V/A.

• Bert Wilson, Sonny Simmons, Smiley Winters, James Zitro, Barbara Donald, John Neumann, *Christmas With Uncle Sonny*, Dr. Wheelz' Archives #1&2 (2CD-R, USA), 2004 *

December 25, 1971 **

Sonny Simmons' home, San Francisco, USA

1. Xmas With Uncle Sonny 1 (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Smiley Winters/James Zitro/John Neumann) [45:30]
2. Xmas With Uncle Sonny 2 (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Smiley Winters/James Zitro/John Neumann) [18:54]
3. Xmas With Uncle Sonny 3 (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Smiley Winters/James Zitro/John Neumann) [5:01]

Bert Wilson : saxophones
Sonny Simmons : saxophones
Barbara Donald : trumpet
John Neumann : bass
James Zitro : drums, percussion
William "Smiley" Winters : drums, percussion

notes :

* : See rest of the session on **71.12.24**.

** : « Bert recorded for 3 days at 2 locations and calls the series *Christmas with Uncle Sonny* : Starting at Bert's house the afternoon of Christmas Eve, Sonny, Zitro and another great percussionist, Smiley Winters are partying & playing. Bert saved snippets of conversation along with some blistering music a reel of tape was recorded that afternoon. Christmas eve, all but Smiley Winters crossed the bridge to Sonny's house in San Francisco, Zitro's and Barbra & Sonny's children were playing around the edges of the music. Barbara Donald contributes to the ensembles & plays some great solos. The next day, the group was joined by Smiley, along with bassist John Neumann and the music continued into the evening when the group again headed back to Bert's place in Berkeley, across the bay. Bert recorded 3 reels of this music, I think the originals are BASF tape, which is good quality. » (Nancy Curtis)

72.00.00

BERT WILSON/SONNY SIMMONS/+V/A.

• Bert Wilson, Sonny Simmons, Barbara Donald, Michael Cohen, Dennis Parker, James Zitro, *Palo Colorado Suite*, Dr. Wheelz' Archives #7 (CD-R, USA), 2005

Summer 1972

Palo Colorado Canyon, Big Sur, USA

1. Para-phrase On New Newk (Sonny Simmons) [21:53]
2. Sonny's Tune (Sonny Simmons) [10:29]
3. Untitled (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Barbara Donald/Michael Cohen/Dennis Parker/James Zitro) [36:04]

Bert Wilson : tenor and baritone saxophones
Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Barbara Donald : trumpet
Michael Cohen : organ
Dennis Parker : bass guitar
James Zitro : percussion

72.08.01

SMILEY WINTERS

- **Les Oubliés de Jazz Ensemble featuring William “Smiley” Winters**, *Playing “That” Nigger Music*, Touché Records TRLP 101 (LP, USA), 1976 {1}
- **Smiley Winters**, *William Richard “Smiley” Winters Sr., Esq., H.M.I.C. (Head Musician In Charge)*, Touché Records TRLP 103 (LP, USA), 197(?) *
- **Les Oubliés du Jazz Ensemble**, *“That” Nigg/Er/Ur/Ah Music !*, Touché Records TRCD 101 (2CD, USA), 2003 {2} **

August 1st, 1972

Sierra Sound Studios, Berkeley, USA

1. The Introduction {1} / a.k.a. Marie Braure {2}
2. Nigger-UR-AH-Musician {1} / a.k.a. “Smiley” Winters {2}
3. Nigger-UR-AH-Music {1} / a.k.a. Nigger Music ! {2}
4. Persona Non Grata {1} / a.k.a. Persona Non Grata (UC Berkley Blues) {2}
5. Just For “Smiles” {1,2}
6. Quelle Est Votre Raison D’Etre {1,2}
7. “Smiley” Winters Gitting Righteously Down ! {1} / a.k.a. Smiley Winters Playing Them Tubs {2}
8. Lay Out... Nigger Musician... Lay Out {2}
9. Epilogue {2}

William “Smiley” Winters : drums, conductor

Sonny Simmons : alto and tenor saxophones, English horn

Barbara Donald : trumpet

C.L. Jones : tenor saxophone

Sonny Lewis : tenor saxophone, flute

Jules Rowell : trombone

Ed Kelly : electric piano

Ray Drummond : bass

Melvin Simmons : bass

Marie Braure: spoken introduction (#1)

Sugar Ree : voice (#2)

producer : James Bronson Jr.

note :

* : A compilation record, *William Richard “Smiley” Winters Sr., Esq., H.M.I.C.* covers Smiley Winter’s tenure with Touché records. Tracks were taken from *That Nigger Music* and an Al Tanner date from 1967, *Happiness Is... Takin’ Care Of Natural Business... Dig ?* (Touché records TRLP 100, 1968). I haven’t been able to locate a copy of this record, and cannot confirm which *Nigger...* tracks are featured on the LP.

** : The CD reissue features an hour-long compilation of “Smiley” Winters interviews as a bonus disc.

78(?).00.00

TOWNSEND, TOWNSEND, TOWNSEND & ROGERS

• *Townsend, Townsend, Townsend & Rogers*, Chocolate City CCLP 2007 (LP, USA), 1979

1978 (?) *

Marvin Gaye Studios, LA, USA

1. Wondering (Ed Townsend/V. Fisher) [4:24]
2. Rock Me Sock Me (Nathaniel G. Johnson/David Rogers/Lester Crawford/Larry Conley) [3:15]
3. Bring It Down To The Real (Ed Townsend/David Rogers) [4:38]
4. True Love (Is A Terrible Thing To Waste) (Ed Townsend) [4:08]
5. It's A Pleasure To Have Loved You (Ed Townsend) [3:31]
6. Playground (David Rogers) [4:24]
7. You Can (Ed Townsend/C. Guidice) [4:23]
8. It's Too Late To Be Nice To Her Now (Ed Townsend) [6:41]
9. It's You (David Rogers) [5:05]

Ed Townsend : lead vocals (#1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9), keyboards, conductor, arranger

Michael Townsend : lead vocals (#2, 3, 6), keyboards

David Townsend : guitar, keyboards

David Rogers : guitar, keyboards

Anthony Johnson : special keyboards

Larry Conley : tenor saxophone, lead vocals (#2)

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Barbara Simmons : trumpet

Nathaniel G. Johnson : bass

Lester Crawford : drums

Rene Hall : arranger

producer : Ed Townsend

note :

* : No date is mentioned on the record, although Sonny Simmons remembers the session taking place in 1978 (info courtesy of MC). On the other hand, by 1978 the Marvin Gaye studios had ceased to function (when Marvin Gaye was forced to move to Hawaiï), maybe as early as January 1978 (to be confirmed) ; the recording session could have well taken place the previous year, 1977.

82.01.19

SONNY SIMMONS

- *Backwoods Suite*, ITM <ref. ?> (LP, Germany), 1982 *
- *Backwoods Suite*, WestWind 2074 (CD), 1990

January 19, 1982

Fantasy Studios, Berkeley, USA

1. Sparrow's Last Jump (Sonny Simmons) [5:51]
2. Backwoods Suite (Sonny Simmons) [6:45]
3. Title X (Sonny Simmons) [11:02]
4. You Better Do It Now Before You Die Later (Sonny Simmons) [5:11]
5. Manhattan Out (Sonny Simmons) [8:04]
6. Chimes Of Time (Sonny Simmons) [2:56]
7. Shores Of Trinidad (Sonny Simmons) [8:09]
8. Backwoods Suite - reprise (Sonny Simmons) [2:06]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Joe Hardin : trumpet (#1, 3-8)

Al Thomas : trombone (#1, 3-8)

Michael Marcus : baritone saxophone (#1, 3-8)

Joe Bonner : piano (#1-7)

Herbie Lewis : bass (#1-7)

Billy Higgins : drums (#1-7)

producer : Craig Morton

note :

* : Questionable issue, probably deleted. Information needed.

82.10.00

SONNY SIMMONS

- *Global Jungle*, (cassette, USA), 1985 *
- *Global Jungle*, Deal With It 101 (CD, USA), 1995 (?)

October 1982 **

Oakland, USA

1. The Global Jungle (Sonny Simmons) [10:05]
2. The Global Prayer (Sonny Simmons) [9:46]
3. Steel Foundry Of Love (Sonny Simmons) [4:39]
4. Walking On Top Of The Sky (Sonny Simmons) [10:57]

5. Duet (Sonny Simmons) [9:35]
6. Tachyon Movements (Sonny Simmons) [7:02]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Kirk Heydt : cello
Perry Thorsell : acoustic bass (#1-3)
Earl Freeman : electric fretless bass (#1-3)
Freddie "Bon Ganni" Williams : acoustic bass (#4 -6)
Dylan Morgan : drums
Jeffrey Donald : vocals (#4)

producer : Kirk Heydt

notes :

* : No mention of label or reference.

** : Recorded in two sessions, with two groups : the first session provided tracks #1-3, the second tracks #3-4. MC has seen the original master tape, which was used for both sessions, the second session unfortunately being recorded over the first one : it bears « October 11, 1982 ». If the date applies to tracks #1-3, tracks #3-4 were recorded a few weeks later. If the date applies to tracks #3-4, tracks #1-3 were recorded a few weeks earlier.

86.10.00

SONNY SIMMONS

• *The Complete ESP-Disk' Recordings* ESP-Disk' ESP 4012 (2CD, USA), 2005 *

October 1986 (?) **

NYC , USA

1. Change from the 50's to the 60's [2:26]
2. The Avant Garde [1:42]
3. Fear of Exposing the Music [1:50]
4. Sonny on Barbara Donald I [2:35]
5. Sonny on Barbara Donald II [1:52]
6. The City of David [0:55]
7. Metamorphosis [0:18]
8. The College Circuit [0:49]
9. On Eric Dolphy I [1:31]
10. On Eric Dolphy II [2:43]
11. How They Treat Us [2:10]
12. The West Coast [1:01]
13. Musicians Need Work [1:49]
14. The Music Industry [2:20]
15. Learn your Appliance [1:56]
16. The "New Music" [1:12]
17. Dennis Charles [0:38]
18. Sonny's Contribution [3:55]

Sonny Simmons : voice

Interview directed by Michael "Dr. Bop" Anderson ***

notes :

* : See **66.08.30** and **66.12.00** for the remainder of this reissue.

** : Michael "Dr. Bop" Anderson states in his liner-notes for *Backwoods Suite* (WestWind 2074) that he did this interview at the time Sonny performed the First On First club in the Village. This session by the Sonny Simmons Sextet (featuring Michael Marcus on baritone, Dennis Charles and Tom Bruno on drums, Alex Lodico on trombone, Richard Clements on piano, and Bob Arkin on bass) was held on October 4, 1986.

*** : This interview is interspersed with extracts of a Barbara Donald interview on ESP 4012.

88.00.00

SONNY SIMMONS

- **Various Artists**, *Beets : A Collection Of Jazz Songs*, Elemental TEC <ref.??> (cassette, USA) *
- **Various Artists**, *Beets : A Collection Of Jazz Songs*, Elemental TEC 90901 (LP, USA), 1990
- **Various Artists**, *Beets : A Collection Of Jazz Songs*, Elemental TEC 90902 (CD, USA), 1992

1988 (?) **

<location ?>, San Francisco, USA

1. Ballad For My Friend (Sonny Simmons) [3:43]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

notes :

* : The cassette, a limited edition, was sold encased in a can of beets. This compilation features other tracks by Fred Frith, Club Foot Orchestra, Peter Fair, ROVA, Machete Ensemble of San Francisco, Tom Cora, Anthony Braxton, Gino Robair, Eric Drew Feldman, Snakefinger, B. Singer, Sun Ra, Winston Tong and Big Butter.

** : Possible vestige of an unissued album, this may have been recorded in 1988, according to the *San Francisco Chronicle* in a Pat Soberanis article from June 11, 1989 : « As if to prove his point, Simmons played a tape for me of the solo album he recorded in one five-hour session last year for Elemental Records - one he'd like to call *Shipwrecked* in honor of his "condition". And there it was, clean and true : the Sonny Simmons sound that eases the soul's pain. It's coming straight from the street. » (Info courtesy of MC.)

91.08.08

SONNY SIMMONS

- *SOLO Out Into The Andromeda*, Parallactic 51 [M31 v.1] (2CD, USA), 2003 {1} *
- *Jewels*, Boxholder BHX 043 (CD, USA), 2004 {2}

August 8, 1991

Home of Dr. Sheldon I. Morton, San Francisco, USA

1. Music Matador (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [12:37 ; 12:30] ** {1,2}
2. Cosmic Funk (Sonny Simmons) [19:15 ; 19:00] {1,2}
3. Caribbean Nights (Sonny Simmons) [8:47 ; 8:40] {1,2}
4. Other Worlds (Sonny Simmons) [16:30 ; 16:23] {1,2}
5. Reverend Church (Sonny Simmons) [11:57 ; 11:46] {1,2}
6. (unknown title) (Sonny Simmons) [0:48] {1}

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

producers : Craig Morton and Sonny Simmons

notes :

* : This session was first issued on Parallactic as part of a limited edition of 100 with **03.01.25**. Meant as a bonus disk, it bears no information. The running order is #2, 3, 1, 4, 5, 6. This edition was allegedly bootlegged without Sonny Simmons' consent; the Boxholder edition is the only legal release of this session, put out under the artist's control.

** : For all tracks, the first timing shown is taken from the Parallactic bootleg, the second from the Boxholder release.

92.12.07-08

SONNY SIMMONS

- *Ancient Ritual*, Qwest/Reprise 9 45623-2 (CD, USA), 1994

December 7 & 8, 1992

Hyde Street Studios, San Francisco, USA *

1. Reincarnation (Sonny Simmons) [6:50]
2. Trumpet Ship (Sonny Simmons) [5:46]
3. Theme For Linda (Sonny Simmons) [7:14]
4. Crystal (Sonny Simmons) [6:25]
5. The Other East (Sonny Simmons) [7:18]
6. Country Parson (Sonny Simmons) [10:08]
7. Ancient Ritual (Sonny Simmons) [12:10]
8. Sundown In Egypt (Sonny Simmons) [10:49]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn
Charnett Moffett : bass
Zarak Simmons : drums

producer : Craig Morton

note :

* : This date was originally intended as a quartet session, with Andrew Hill on piano.

93.00.00

THE RHYTHM SECTION

- **Various Artists**, *Home Cookin'*, Ubiquity URLP 001 (LP, USA), 1994 *
- **Various Artists**, *Home Cookin'*, Ubiquity URCD 001 (CD, USA), 1994
- **Various Artists**, *Best Of Cookin'*, Ubiquity URCD 063 (4LP, USA), 2000 **
- **Various Artists**, *Best Of Cookin'*, Ubiquity URCD 063 (2CD, USA), 2000

1993

Live at Swing Shift, San Francisco, USA ***

1. Tachyon (Dan Prothero) [6:49]

The Rhythm Section, a/k/a Dan Prothero : arranger, mixes, voice
Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, voice

producer : Dan Prothero

notes :

* : This compilation features other tracks by DJ Greyboy (feat. Karl Denson), 10BassT, Mock Quintet (feat. Khewan Onaje), Spirit Level (feat. Kim Edwards), Sharpshooters, The Rhythm Section (feat. John Payne).

** : This compilation features other tracks by DJ Greyboy (feat. Karl Denson), The Rhythm Section (feat. Jacko Peake), Slide 5, Vibes Aliven, Ping Pong (feat. Kelly Huff), Galactic, New Legends, 10NBassT, Sharpshooters, Spirit Level, Greyboy Allstars, Jacko Peake, Mock Quintet (feat. Danny Cao), Sweet Potato, Skyjuice, DJ Swingsett.

*** : Dan Prothero's own testimony on this meeting : « Friends of mine ran into Sonny when he was playing sax on the sidewalk in San Francisco, and a few months later they suggested I record a track with him. At that time I was putting together tracks with loops and samples, and having people blow solos over them. That's what I ended up doing with Sonny, in the dingy basement studio of a friend of mine... Not much else to report, as Sonny kind of disappeared off the radar for a while after that. At some point later on, his career seemed to get a revival but I didn't hear much about him gigging locally. » (Learn more on Dan Prothero at <http://www.fogworld.com/dpro.html>.)

93.05.00

RENEGADE SOCIETY

- *Live In S.F. 1993*, Parallactic 38 (CD, USA), 2001
- *Live In San Francisco 1993*, Parallactic/Injazz 38 (CD, USA), 2004 *

May 1993

Live at Spike's Underground, San Francisco, USA

1. Birth Of A Renegade (Sonny Simmons) [35:35]
2. A Distant Voice (Sonny Simmons) [7:58]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Brandon Evans : tenor saxophone

John Rush : bass

Michael Calvallo : bass

Drew Gardner : drums

producer : Brandon Evans

note :

* : This reissue was put out illegally and wasn't intended for release by Sonny Simmons.

94.11.23-29(?)

SONNY SIMMONS

- *Live - In Paris*, Arhoolie CD 506 A/B (2CD, USA), 2002

November 23-29, 1994 *

Live at Club La Villa, Paris, France

1. Cosmic Ship ** (Sonny Simmons) [14:00]
2. Purple Kiss (Sonny Simmons) [7:00]
3. My Favorite Things (Richard Rodgers/Oliver Hammerstein II) [5:35]
4. Ancient Egypt (Sonny Simmons) [4:00]
5. New Bird Blues *** (Sonny Simmons) [5:40]
6. Reverend Church **** (Sonny Simmons) [8:50]
7. Hot House (Tadd Dameron) [9:45]
8. Lady L (Sonny Simmons) [7:25]
9. Salt Peanuts (John Birks Gillespie) [5:00]
10. Ghost From The Golden Era (Sonny Simmons) [19:20]
11. Voodoo Hoodoo Funk ***** (Sonny Simmons) [5:00]
12. 'Round Midnight (Thelonious Monk) [5:40]
13. Hip Hop Le Funk (Sonny Simmons) [6:45]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Jean-Jacques Avenel : bass
George Brown : drums

producers : Sonny Simmons and Michael Marcus

notes :

* : The engagement, his first in Europe, lasted a week. The night(s) these recordings were made is unknown.

** : « Trumpet Ship » on *Ancient Ritual*.

*** : « Reincarnation » on *Ancient Ritual*.

**** : « Country Parson » on *Ancient Ritual*.

***** : « Ancient Ritual » on *Ancient Ritual*.

95.07.06

SONNY SIMMONS

• *Triangular Force - Live In Montreal 1994*, Parallactic 58 (CD, USA), 2002 *

• *Reincarnation - Trio : Montreal 1994*, InJazz 02 (CD, USA), 2003 *

July 6, 1995 **

Live in Montreal, Canada

1. Ancient Ritual (Sonny Simmons) [20:02]
2. Trumpet Ship (Sonny Simmons) [9:12]
3. My Favorite Things (Richard Rodgers/Oliver Hammerstein II) [4:57]
4. Body And Soul (Johnny Green/Robert Sour/Edward Heyman/Frank Eyton) [7:01]
5. Country Parson (Sonny Simmons) [7:25]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Charnet Moffett : bass
Art Lewis : drums

producer : Brandon Evans

notes :

* : This record was put out illegally and wasn't intended for release by Sonny Simmons. An official release is due sometimes in 2006 on Jazzaway records.

** : *Jazz Magazine* add (info courtesy of MC). The given date, 1994, is obviously erroneous.

95.07.28

HORACE TAPSCOTT/SONNY SIMMONS

• **Tapscott Simmons Quartet**, *Among Friends*, Jazz Friends Productions JFP 004 (CD, France), 1999

July 28, 1995

Live at the Parc des Recollets, Longwy, France

1. Milestones (Miles Davis) [4:23]
2. Body And Soul (Johnny Green/Robert Sour/Edward Heyman/Frank Eyton) [10:23]
3. So What (Miles Davis) [15:50]
4. Caravan (Edward Kennedy Ellington/Juan Tizol/Irving Mills) [20:26]

Horace Tapscott : piano

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

James Lewis : bass

John Betsch : drums

producer : Alain Dupuy-Raufaste

95.08.08

HORACE TAPSCOTT

• **Horace Tapscott Trio + guest**, *Recorded Live in La Seyne sur Mer*, Jazz Friends Productions (DVD, France), 2005

August 8, 1995

Live in La Seyne-sur-Mer, France

1. Tapscott Medley n°1 (Horace Tapscott) 18:34
2. Tapscott Medley n°2 (Horace Tapscott) 22:52

Horace Tapscott : piano

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

James Lewis : bass

John Betsch : drums

producer : Alain Dupuy-Raufaste

95.12.22-23

SONNY SIMMONS

• *American Jungle*, Qwest/Reprise 9362-46543-2 (CD, USA), 1997

December 22 & 23, 1995

Power Station, NYC, USA

1. Land Of The Freaks (Sonny Simmons) [8:33]
2. Black, Blue & Purple (For The Great Lord Alain) (Sonny Simmons) [12:19]
3. Coltrane Story (Sonny Simmons) [2:46]
4. My Favorite Things (Richard Rodgers/Oliver Hammerstein II) [9:39]
5. American Jungle Theme * (Sonny Simmons) [13:04]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Travis Shook : piano

Reggie Workman : bass

Cindy Blackman : drums

producer : Craig Morton

note :

* : Features the theme known as « Hip Hop Le Funk » on *Live In Paris*.

96.04.09

SONNY SIMMONS

• *Transcendence*, CIMP 113 (CD, USA), 1996

April 9, 1996

The Spirit Room, Rossie, NYC, USA

1. Manhattan Rejects (Sonny Simmons) [8:19]
2. Geraldine's Dream (Sonny Simmons) [7:52]
3. Nuclear Fission (Sonny Simmons) [12:57]
4. In The Arena (Michael Marcus) [4:28]
5. Phrazaronics (Sonny Simmons) [11:07]
6. Lost Village Of Um'Tombey (Sonny Simmons) [10:15]
7. Cosmosamatics (Sonny Simmons) [14:20]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone (#1-3, 5-7)

Michael Marcus : stritch, manzello (#1, 3-5, 7)

Charles Moffett : drums (#1, 3-7)

producer : Bob Rusch

96.05.04

SONNY SIMMONS

• *Judgement Day*, CIMP 118 (CD, USA), 1996

May 4, 1996

The Spirit Room, Rossie, NYC, USA

1. Judgement Day (Sonny Simmons) [15:54]
2. Monk Mania (Sonny Simmons) [10:59]
3. Sponge Garden (Michael Marcus) [5:21]
4. Waltz For Josette (Sonny Simmons) [8:08]
5. The Call For Old Syrus (Sonny Simmons) [16:34]
6. Augmentation (Sonny Simmons) [13 :08]

Sonny Simmons : tenor saxophone (#1-2, 4-6)

Michael Marcus : manzello, c-melody saxophone (#1-2, 4, 6), bass clarinet (#3)

Steve Neil : bass

Charles Moffett : drums (#1-2, 4, 6)

producer : Bob Rusch

97.00.00

SONNY SIMMONS

• **Jazz Quartet Volume 1**, *Saxophone Legacy*, Zero-G TASC79 (CD, UK), 1997 *

Spring 1997

Al Douglas' homestudio, Paris, France

1. Tito Puente (Sonny Simmons) [0:26]
2. Latin 1 (Sonny Simmons) [2:02]
3. Latin 2 (Sonny Simmons) [2:51] **
4. Leadbelly (Sonny Simmons) [0:20]
5. Folk 1 (Sonny Simmons) [1:26]
6. Folk 2 (Sonny Simmons) [1:43]
7. Folk 3 (Sonny Simmons) [1:10]
8. Folk 4 (Sonny Simmons) [2:01]
9. This Is The Blues (Sonny Simmons) [0:23]
10. Blues 1 (Sonny Simmons) [3:02]
11. Blues 2 (Sonny Simmons) [2:43]
12. Blues 3 (Sonny Simmons) [2:25]
13. Louis Jordan (Sonny Simmons) [0:21]
14. R&B 1 (Sonny Simmons) [2:34]
15. R&B 2 (Sonny Simmons) [2:14]
16. R&B 3 (Sonny Simmons) [1:56]

17. Reggae Music (Sonny Simmons) [0:23]
18. Reggae 1 (Sonny Simmons) [1:53] ***
19. Reggae 2 (Sonny Simmons) [2:44] ****
20. Reggae 3 (Sonny Simmons) [2:31]
21. Honkin' (Sonny Simmons) [0:27]
22. Rock'n Roll (Sonny Simmons) [1:57]
23. Ballad (Sonny Simmons) [1:49]
24. The Word Funky (Sonny Simmons) [0:37]
25. Funk 1 (Sonny Simmons) [3:20]
26. Funk 2 (Sonny Simmons) [2:14]
27. Funk 3 (Sonny Simmons) [2:56]
28. Jefferson Airplane (Sonny Simmons) [0:40]
29. Hard 1 (Sonny Simmons) [1:23]
30. Hard 2 (Sonny Simmons) [1:39]
31. Hard 3 (Sonny Simmons) [1:39]
32. A Way Of Life (Sonny Simmons) [0:25]
33. Jazz 1 (Sonny Simmons) [1:35]
34. Jazz 2 (Sonny Simmons) [1:26]
35. Jazz 3 (Sonny Simmons) [2:56]
36. Jazz 4 (Sonny Simmons) [1:09]
37. Jazz 5 (Sonny Simmons) [1:38]
38. House Cats (Sonny Simmons) [0:18]
39. House 1 (Sonny Simmons) [1:17] *****
40. House 2 (Sonny Simmons) [1:59]
41. Acid Jazz (Sonny Simmons) [0:18]
42. Acid (Sonny Simmons) [3:24]
43. 1kHz Tone @ Digital 0 [0:19]

Sonny Simmons : spoken introductions (#1, 4, 9, 13, 17, 21, 24, 28, 32, 38, 41), alto saxophone

producer : Al Douglas

notes :

* : Technically not an album, this is a professional sample CD consisting of « Alto Sax Riffs and improvisation in the [aforementioned] styles ».

** : « The Island Song » on *Firebirds*.

*** : « Title X » on *Backwoods Suite*.

**** : « Other Worlds » on *Jewels*.

***** : « Ancient Ritual » on *Ancient Ritual*.

99.05.07

SONNY SIMMONS/BRANDON EVANS/KEVIN NORTON

- *Universal Prayer/Survival Skills*, Parallactic 05 (CD, USA), 1999 {1}
- *Universal Prayer/Survival Skills*, Parallactic 05 (CD, USA), 2005 {2} *

May 7, 1999

Baby Monster Studios, NYC, USA

1. Dolphy'ning (Sonny Simmons) [9:19] {1,2}
2. Dolphy'ning - alternate take (Sonny Simmons) [6:16] {2}
3. Survival Skills (Brandon Evans) [12:59] {1,2}
4. Universal Prayer (Sonny Simmons) [14:49] {1,2}
5. San Francisco Exiles (Brandon Evans) [4:24] {1,2}
6. Elliptical Axis / 8 (Brandon Evans) [6:52] {1,2}
7. Piranha Blues (Sonny Simmons) [8:13] {1,2}
8. Piranha Blues - alternate take (Sonny Simmons) [3:05] {2}

Sonny Simmons : alto and tenor saxophones, bells

Brandon Evans : c-soprano and tenor saxophones, bass and contra-alto clarinet, bells

Kevin Norton : drums, percussions, bells

producer : Steve Levin

note :

* : This reissue was put out illegally and its bonus material wasn't intended for release by Sonny Simmons.

01.01.00

SONNY SIMMONS

SONNY SIMMONS/BRANDON EVANS

- *Tales Of The Ancient East*, Parallactic 39 (CD, USA), 2001 {1}
- **Sonny Simmons, Brandon Evans**, *A Salute To Ustad Bismillah Khan*, Parallactic 40 (CD, USA), 2001 {2}
- *Tales Of The Ancient East/For Ustad Bismillah Khan*, Parallactic 39 & 40 (CD, USA), 2002 {3} *

January 2001

Parallactic Studio, NYC, USA

(except #1 : Prince Studios, NYC, USA)

1. Ensemble Colors (Sonny Simmons) [15:21] {1,3}
2. Rejoice (Sonny Simmons) [2:35] {2,3}
3. Flower Boat (Sonny Simmons) [9:34] {2,3}
4. Evil Eye (Sonny Simmons) [6:18] {2,3}
5. The Ruby (Sonny Simmons) [16:22] {1,3}

6. Fire Heart (Sonny Simmons) [4:50] {2,3}
7. Purple Dancers (Sonny Simmons) [8:22] {2,3}

Sonny Simmons : English horn, vocals

Brandon Evans : flute (#1), shenai (#2), harmonium (#3, 5), bass clarinet (#4), soprano clarinet (#6), contra-alto clarinet (#7)

Brian Glick : bass clarinet (#1, 4, 6)

Rosie Shakarian : Korg synthesiser (#1, 6)

producer : Brandon Evans

note :

* : Issued as a twofer with *Duet 2002*. See **02.04.00** below.

01.02.20

THE COSMOSMATICS

• *The Cosmosmatics*, Boxholder BHX 022 (CD, USA), 2001

February 20, 2001

The Cutting Room, NYC, USA

1. Quasar (Michael Marcus) [12:25]
2. Mingus Mangus (Sonny Simmons) [7:53]
3. Near (Michael Marcus) [9:54]
4. Beyond The Inner East (Sonny Simmons) [8:03]
5. New Line Groove (Sonny Simmons) [11:15]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Michael Marcus : straight tenor and straight alto saxophones, bass flute

James Carter : bass saxophone (#2, 5)

Karen Borca : bassoon (#4)

Samir Chatterjee : tablas (#4)

William Parker : bass

Jay Rosen : drums

producer : Michael Marcus

01.07(?) .00

TCHANGODEI

• *Perfekte Leere* -> *LIEBE*, Volcanic Records N° 29029 (CD, France), 2002

July 2001 (?) *

Lyon, France

1. Perfekte Leere -> *LIEBE* (Tchangodei) [12:08]
2. *Leere* (Tchangodei) [9:06]
3. *Wenn Mozart lebte were er jazz Pianist* (Tchangodei) [7:48]
4. *Effet Lumière* (Tchangodei) [9:43]
5. *Une Fleur a besoin d'être aimée* (Tchangodei) [7:25]

Tchangodei : piano

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Sunny Murray: drums

note :

* : Impromptu trio date. Originally intended as a Tchangodei/Sunny Murray duet. Sunny Murray brought Sonny Simmons on the spot (info courtesy of MC).

01.07.27-28

SONNY SIMMONS

• **Sonny Simmons Quintet**, *Mixolydis*, Marge 29 (CD, France), 2002

July 27 & 28, 2001

Studio Sysmo, Paris, France

1. *Echoes Of Eric Dolphy* (Sonny Simmons) [5:21]
2. *Mixolydis* (Sonny Simmons) [8:04]
3. *The Lady From Trinidad* * (Sonny Simmons) [8:14]
4. *Benedictina* (Sonny Simmons) [6:00]
5. *Reverend Church* ** (Sonny Simmons) [8:21]
6. *Blues In The Pocket* (John Hicks) [5:37]
7. *The Voodoo Stomp* (Sonny Simmons) [8:08]
8. *The Promise* (John Coltrane) [9:00]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Eddie Henderson : trumpet

John Hicks : piano

Curtis Lundy : bass

Victor Lewis : drums

producer : Gérard Terronès

notes :

* : « Title X » on *Backwoods Suite* (see **82.01.19**), <First on First> and <Rive de Gier>.

** : Theme usually known as « Ancient Ritual » (see **92.12.07-08** and **94.11.29**).

01.08.10, 01.08.27 **THE COSMOSAMATICS**

• *Cosmosamatics II*, Boxholder BHX 030 (CD, USA), 2002

August 10 & 27, 2001

Sorcerer Sound Studios, NYC, USA

1. Fusionanatomy (Michael Marcus) [13:33]
2. Daughters Of Isis (Sonny Simmons) [9:11]
3. Echoes Of Eric Dolphy (Sonny Simmons) [11:33]
4. Queen Bee (Michael Marcus) [8:55]
5. Rio Bahia (Sonny Simmons) [6:20]
6. Cosmic Curtis (Curtis Lundy/Sonny Simmons) [13:13]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Michael Marcus : soprano and straight tenor saxophones, bass clarinet, flute

Curtis Lundy : bass

Jay Rosen : drums

producer : Michael Marcus

02.01.29, 02.02.12 **THE COSMOSAMATICS**

• *Cosmosamatics Three*, Boxholder BHX 041 (CD, USA), 2004 *

January 29 & February 12, 2002

6/8 Studio, NYC, USA

1. Futura (Michael Marcus) [5:16]
2. Tonal Magnitudes (Sonny Simmons) [9:26]
3. Cool Burn (Michael Marcus) [8:24]
4. Bring On The Funk (Sonny Simmons) [4:55]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Michael Marcus : baritone saxophone, saxello

Jay Rosen : drums

producer : Michael Marcus

note :

* : See **03.03.07** below for the remainder of the album (live tracks).

02.04.00

SONNY SIMMONS/BRANDON EVANS

• **Sonny Simmons and Brandon Evans**, *Duo 2002*, Parallactic 45 (CD, USA), 2002 *

April 2002

Parallactic Recordings Headquarters, Chelsea, NYC, USA

1. My Favorite Things (Richard Rodgers/Oliver Hammerstein II) [6:01]
2. Dirge (Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans) [5:30]
3. C'est la vie, Géraldine (take 1) (Sonny Simmons) [6:50]
4. Ghost Town (Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans) [1:49]
5. West 23 (Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans) [7:36]
6. To Ward Off The Destruction Of The Universe (Brandon Evans) [6:04]
7. Revisit The Thought (Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans) [9:33]
8. Codes (Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans) [6:22]
9. C'est la vie, Géraldine (take 2) (Sonny Simmons) [5:42]
10. (unknown title) [9:11]

Sonny Simmons : soprano, alto and tenor saxophones

Brandon Evans : soprano, c-melody and tenor saxophones

producer : Brandon Evans

note :

* : Issued as a twofer with *Tales Of The Ancient East*. See **01.01-02.00**.

02.08.06

RENEGADE SOCIETY

- *New York 2002*, Parallactic 52 (CD, USA), 2003 {1} *
- *La Société de Renégat*, Parallactic EP1 (CD, Belgium), 2003 {2}
- *La Société de Renégat*, Parallactic EP1 (CD, USA), 2004 {3} **

August 6, 2002

One Soul Studio, NYC, USA

1. Renegade NYC 1 (Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans) [22:57] {1} ***
2. Renegade NYC 2 (Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans) [14:21] {1}

3. Renegade NYC 3 (Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans) [16:50] {1,3} ****
4. Verre Brisé (Brandon Evans) [5:44] {2,3}
5. Exil Global (Sonny Simmons) [13:13] {2,3}

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Brandon Evans : bass clarinet, tenor and c-soprano saxophones

Andrew Vida : tenor saxophone (#4-5)

Clayton Thomas : bass

Andrew Barker : drums

producer : Brandon Evans

notes :

* : All subsequent reissues of this record were put out illegally and weren't intended for release by Sonny Simmons.

** : The reissue of Parallactic EP1 features « Renegade NYC 3 » and an alto solo performance as filler (since they are credited neither on cover nor label). See **03.01.25** below regarding the alto solo track. This reissue was put out illegally and its bonus content wasn't intended for release by Sonny Simmons.

*** : Entries on Parallactic 52 are not titled. Those titles were taken from www.parallactic.com.

**** : Appears on both releases. Parallactic EP1 has it as filler (since it is credited neither on cover nor label).

03.01.25

SONNY SIMMONS

- *SOLO Out Into The Andromeda*, Parallactic 51 [M31 v.1] (2CD, USA), 2003 {1} *
- *SOLO Out Into The Andromeda*, Parallactic 51 [M31 v.2] (CD, USA), 2003 {2}
- *La Société de Renégat*, Parallactic EP1 (CD, USA), 2004 {3} **

January 25, 2003

NYC, USA

1. (unknown title) (Sonny Simmons) [21:58] {1,2}
2. (unknown title) (Sonny Simmons) [17:25] {1,2}
3. (unknown title) (Sonny Simmons) [25:34] {1,2}
4. M31 (Sonny Simmons) [19:21] {3} ***

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

producer : Brandon Evans

notes :

* : A limited edition of 100 featured the contents of **91.08.08** as a bonus disk, with a blank label and no info. At the time of the release of Parallactic 51, this August 1991 session, now known as *Jewels*, had not been subject to a separate release. This bonus disk was allegedly bootlegged without Sonny Simmons' consent.

** : See **02.08.06** for the core of this release.

*** : Featured as filler (it is credited neither on cover nor label). The title was taken from www.parallactic.com.

03.02.08

ANTHONY BRAXTON/SONNY SIMMONS/BRANDON EVANS SEXTET

• **Anthony Braxton, Sonny Simmons, Brandon Evans, Andre Vida, Shanir Blumenkranz, Mike Pride,**
Parallactic 53 (2CD, USA), 2003 *

• **Anthony Braxton, Sonny Simmons, Brandon Evans, Andre Vida, Shanir Blumenkranz, Mike Pride,**
Parallactic 54 (2CD, USA), 2003

February 8, 2003

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, USA

1. Comp. 313 (Anthony Braxton) [12:47]
2. Tenth Precinct (Brandon Evans) [13:12]
3. Tales Of The Ancient East ** (Sonny Simmons) [12:56]
4. 508M (+ Comp. 136) *** (Anthony Braxton) [17:10]
5. Driggs Drag (Brandon Evans) [28:29]
6. Echoes Of Dolphy **** (Sonny Simmons) [6:36]
7. Ballade (Anthony Braxton/Sonny Simmons/Brandon Evans/Andre Vida/Shanir Blumenkranz/Mike Pride) [4:30]
8. The Sepulchur ***** (Sonny Simmons) [12:15]

Anthony Braxton : alto and soprano saxophones

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Brandon Evans : soprano and tenor saxophones, bass clarinet

Andre Vida : baritone saxophone (#2-8), arranger

Shanir Blumenkranz : bass, oud

Mike Pride : drums, percussion, glockenspiel

producers : Brandon Evans and Benke Davis

note :

* : This is the pre-release. « Parallactic 53 » is faulty : actually, it's the reference for Anthony Braxton's 2CD set *Solo (NYC) 2002*. The running order of disc 2 is also different :

1. Ancient East, part. 2
2. Ballade
3. Driggs Drag
4. Echoing Dolphy.

** : « Ancient East, part. 1 » in the pre-release.

*** : « Comp. 508 » in the pre-release.

**** : « Echoing Dolphy » in the pre-release.

***** : « Ancient East, part. 2 » in the pre-release.

03.03.07

THE COSMOSAMATICS

• *Cosmosamatics Three*, Boxholder BHX 041 (CD, USA), 2004 *

March 7, 2003

Live at Amsterdam's Bimhuis, Holland

1. 12 Seasons Of Love (Michael Marcus) [4:31]
2. Avant Garde Destruct (Sonny Simmons) [7:53]
3. 'Round Midnight (Thelonious Monk) [6:05]
4. Requiem For Anne Frank (Michael Marcus) [6:37]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Michael Marcus : baritone saxophone, saxello

Jay Rosen : drums

producer: Michael Marcus

note :

* : See **02.01.29** for the remainder of the album (studio tracks) and cover.

03.03.10

THE COSMOSAMATICS

• *Live At Banlieues Bleues*, Bleu Regard CT 1963 (CD, France), 2003

March 10, 2003

Live at the salle Jacques Brel, Pantin, France

1. Avant Garde Destruct (Sonny Simmons) [7:22]
2. Quasar (Michael Marcus) [20:00]
3. 12 Seasons Of Love (Michael Marcus) [7:58]
4. Telergy (Michael Marcus) [24:28]
5. Aubade (Andrew Cyrille) [6:15]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Michael Marcus : baritone saxophone, saxello

Tarus Mateen : bass

Andrew Cyrille : drums

producer : Michel Dorbon

03.03.24-25

THE COSMOSAMATICS

• *Magnitudes*, Soul Note 121443-2 (CD, Italy), 2005

March 24 & 25, 2003

Mu Rec, Milano, Italy

1. Uugmoanius (Michael Marcus) [4:04]
2. Avant Garde Destruct - take 1 (Sonny Simmons) [6:54]
3. Thank U Bird - take 1 (Michael Marcus) [4:24]
4. Tonal Magnitudes - take 1 (Sonny Simmons) [6:11]
5. 12 Seasons Of Love (Michael Marcus) [4:27]
6. Telergy (Michael Marcus) [5:06]
7. Tonal Magnitudes - take 2 (Sonny Simmons) [4:01]
8. Urban Nitemare (Michael Marcus) [7:44]
9. Thank U Bird - take 2 (Michael Marcus) [3:13]
10. Avant Garde Destruct - take 2 (Sonny Simmons) [6:42]
11. 'Round Midnight (Thelonious Monk) [5:03]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Michael Marcus : baritone saxophone, saxello, bass clarinet

Tarus Mateen : acoustic and electric bass

Jay Rosen : drums, percussion

producer : Flavio Bonandrini

03.07.20

RENEGADE SOCIETY

• **Sonny Simmons (quartet) feat. Brandon Evans**, *The Internal Renegade Society NYC 2003 vol. 1 : CBGB*, Parallactic 61 (CD, USA), 2004 *

July 20, 2003

Live at CBGB Underground, NYC, USA

1. Global Prayer (Sonny Simmons) [19:07]
2. Congo Call (Prince Lasha/Sonny Simmons) [20:53]
3. Pannonica (Thelonious Monk) [5:27]

Sonny Simmons : English horn, alto saxophone

Brandon Evans : tenor saxophone

Shanir Blumenkranz : bass

Andrew Barker : drums, percussions

producer : Brandon Evans

note :

* : This record was put out illegally and wasn't intended for release by Sonny Simmons.

03.09.05

RENEGADE SOCIETY

• **Sonny Simmons (quartet) feat. Brandon Evans**, *The Internal Renegade Society NYC 2003 vol. 2 : Live At The Bowery Poetry Club*, Parallactic 62 (CD, USA), 2004 *

September 5, 2003

Live at The Bowery Poetry Club, NYC, USA

1. The Internal (+ Too Late For Tears) (Sonny Simmons) [25:00]
2. American Jungle Theme (Sonny Simmons) ** [14:25]
3. Round Midnight (Thelonious Monk) [4:29]

Sonny Simmons : English horn, alto saxophone

Brandon Evans : tenor saxophone

Shanir Blumenkranz : bass

Mike Pride : drums, percussions

producer : Brandon Evans

notes :

* : This record was put out illegally and wasn't intended for release by Sonny Simmons.

** : Misnamed. « Ancient Ritual » in fact.

04.03.09

SONNY SIMMONS/JEFFREY HAYDEN SHURDUT

- *The Future Is Ancient*, NO LABEL (CD-R, USA), 2004
- *The Future Is Ancient*, NO LABEL (CD-R, USA), 2005 *

March 9, 2004

T.H.E. FMA Studio, NYC, USA

Original release :

Frontier Music Composition : The Future Is Ancient Suite (Sonny Simmons/Jeffrey Hayden Shurdut) ** :

1. [7:56]
2. [5:52]
3. [3:33]

4. [1:11]
5. [1:25]
6. [11:39]

Reissue :

1. [7:37] = #1 of the original release. New sax part. Introduction and end abridged.
2. [3:34] = #3 of the original release.
3. [1:04]
4. [1:20] = #5 of the original release.
5. [2:04]
6. [4:50] = #2 of the original release. Remixed. Several parts of the original edited.
7. [10:32] = #6 of the original release. Remixed. Different ending.

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Jeffrey Hayden Shurdut : guitar, amplifier, indian chimes, computer editing, « select software programs on track #1 only »

notes :

* : « Remastered with new material from original session » as stated on the cover.

** : Entries are not titled on either editions.

04.04.29

THE COSMOSAMATICS

• *Reeds & Birds*, Not Two Records MW 757-2 (CD, Polland), 2004 *

April 29, 2004

Live at the Katsan Club, Prague, Czech Republic

1. Avant Garde Destruct (Sonny Simmons) [24:36]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn, vocals

Michael Marcus : tenor saxophone, saxello, bass clarinet

Jay Rosen : drums

producers : Sonny Simmons and Michael Marcus

note :

* : See **04.09.09** below for the remainder of the album (studio tracks).

04.09.09

THE COSMOSAMATICS

• *Reeds & Birds*, Not Two Records MW 757-2 (CD, Polland), 2004 *

September 9, 2004

Velvet Swan Recording, NYC, USA

1. Intoxicating Galaxies (Clifford Barbaro/Michael Marcus/Sonny Simmons) [1:38]
2. Cheryl (take 1) (Charlie Parker) [4:21]
3. Drifting On A Reed (Charlie Parker) [3:19]
4. 49th Street Stomp (Michael Marcus) [8:38]
5. Ballad Medley :
 - a) Autumn In New York (Vernon Duke) /
 - b) In A Sentimental Mood (Duke Ellington) [5:21]
6. Bird Feathers (Charlie Parker) [3:53]
7. Cheryl (take 2) (Charlie Parker) [5:14]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn, vocals
Michael Marcus : tenor saxophone, saxello, bass clarinet
Clifford Barbaro : drums

producers : Sonny Simmons and Michael Marcus

note :

* : See **04.04.29** for the remainder of the album (live track).

04.11.13

THE COSMOSAMATICS

• *Zetrons*, Not Two Records MW 764-2 (CD, Polland), 2005 *

November 13, 2004

Live at the Bimhuis, Amsterdam, Netherlands

1. Mingus Mangus (Sonny Simmons) [11:32]
2. Serene (Eric Dolphy) [5:38]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn
Michael Marcus : tenor saxophone, bass clarinet
Masa Kamaguchi : bass
Jay Rosen : drums

producer : Michael Marcus

note :

* : See **04.11.22** and **04.11.25** for the remainder of the album.

04.11.22

THE COSMOSAMATICS

• *Zetrons*, Not Two Records MW 764-2 (CD, Polland), 2005 *

November 22, 2004

Live at Porgy & Bess, Vienna, Austria

1. 12 Seasons Of Love (Sonny Simmons) [8:36]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Michael Marcus : tenor saxophone, bass clarinet

Masa Kamaguchi : bass

Jay Rosen : drums

producer : Michael Marcus

note :

* : See **04.11.13** and **04.11.25** for the remainder of the album.

04.11.25

THE COSMOSAMATICS

• *Zetrons*, Not Two Records MW 764-2 (CD, Polland), 2005 *

November 25, 2004

Live at Alchemia, Krakov, Poland

1. Crossroads Out (Sonny Simmons) [9:54]

2. Road Dogg (Michael Marcus) [7:41]

3. Shining Winds (Michael Marcus) [6:38]

4. Harmonious Beautious (Michael Marcus) [7:02]

5. Dance Of The Zetrons (Michael Marcus) [8:52]

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Michael Marcus : tenor saxophone, bass clarinet

Masa Kamaguchi : bass

Jay Rosen : drums

producer : Michael Marcus

note :

* : See **04.11.13** and **04.11.22** for the remainder of the album.

04.12.15

SONNY SIMMONS

- *The Traveller (Plays The Music Of Vidar Johansen)*, Jazzaway records JARCD 011 (CD, Norway), 2005 {1}
- <working title : *Duets*>, Jazzaway records, to be released in 2006 {2}
- <working title : *Last Man Standing*>, Jazzaway records, to be released in 2007 {3}

December 15, 2004

Musikkloftet, Oslo, Norway

1. Humphrey (Vidar Johansen) [7:21] {1}
2. 'Round Midnight (Thelonious Monk) [4:10] {2}
3. Tenderly (Sonny Simmons) [4:10] {2}
4. Other East 1 (Sonny Simmons) [6:30] {2}
5. Other East 2 (Sonny Simmons) [5:30] {2}
6. Black Gardenia (Sonny Simmons) [15:47] {3}
7. Ancient Ritual (Sonny Simmons) [11:00] {3}
8. Theme For Ernie - various takes (Sonny Simmons) {3}

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone (#1-3, 6-8), English horn (#1, 4-5)

Anders Aarum : piano (#1, 6-8)

Mats Eilertsen : bass

Ole-Thomas Kolberg : drums (#1, 6, 8)

Torstein Lofthus : drums (#7)

Harald Aadland : violin (#1)

Eyleen Siegel : violin (#1)

Bendik Foss : viola (#1)

Kari Ravnan : cello (#1)

Vidar Johansen : flute, conductor (#1)

producer : Jon Klette

05.01.29-30

SONNY SIMMONS

- *The Traveller (Plays The Music Of Vidar Johansen)*, Jazzaway records JARCD 011 (CD, Norway), 2005 {1}
- <working title : *Duets*>, Jazzaway records, to be released in 2006 {2}
- <working title : *Last Man Standing*>, Jazzaway records, to be released in 2007 {3}

January 29 & 30, 2005

Rainbow Studios, Oslo, Norway

1. Armada (Vidar Johansen) [5:46] {1}
2. Spheres (Vidar Johansen) [7:58] {1}
3. Brainstorm (Jon Klette) [7:23] {1}
4. Sunset (Vidar Johansen) [8:03] {1}
5. Ballade For Queen Anna (Sonny Simmons) [5:21] {2}
6. Carribean Fiesta (Sonny Simmons) [5:16] {2}
7. Free Duet (Sonny Simmons) [5:03] {2}
8. Janet's Mood (Sonny Simmons) [4:35] {3}

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn

Anders Aarum : piano (#1-6, 9)

Mats Eilertsen : bass (#1-4, 9)

Ole-Thomas Kolberg : drums (#1-4, 7-9)

Harald Aadland : violin (#1-4)

Eyleen Siegel : violin (#1-4)

Bendik Foss : viola (#1-4)

Kari Ravnan : cello (#1-4)

Vidar Johansen : flute, conductor (#1-4)

producer : Jon Klette

05.03.08

SONNY SIMMONS

- *The Traveller (Plays The Music Of Vidar Johansen)*, Jazzaway records JARCD 011 (CD, Norway), 2005 {1}
- <working title : *Duets*>, Jazzaway records, to be released in 2006 {2}
- <working title : *Last Man Standing*>, Jazzaway records, to be released in 2007 {3}

March 8, 2005

Rainbow Studios, Oslo, Norway

1. Duet (Sonny Simmons) [7:46] {1}
2. Country Blues (Sonny Simmons) [7:00] {2}
3. Petra (Sonny Simmons) [9:00] {2}
4. Too Late For Tears (Sonny Simmons) [6:30] {2}
5. A Call To Order (Sonny Simmons) [8:40] {3}
6. Melodius Theme (Sonny Simmons) [8:40] {3}
7. La Benedictina (Sonny Simmons) [3:20] {3}

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone, English horn (#3)

Anders Aarum : piano (#2-3, 5-7)

Mats Eilertsen : bass (#4-7)

Ole-Thomas Kolberg : drums (#5-7)

producer : Jon Klette

B. Soundtrack

98.12.00

SONNY SIMMONS/GILBERT SIGRIST

• **François Lunel**, *Jours Tranquilles à Sarajevo*, Promenades Films (motion picture, France), 03.03.26 *

December 1998

3 or 4 tracks including a new rendition of *Aborigine Dance In Scotland* (see section A., 63.08.08). See also section D., 98.12.00, for unissued tracks. [runtime 23 minutes approximately]

Sonny Simmons : tenor saxophone
Gilbert Sigrist: piano

film director : François Lunel

film producer : Samuel Chauvain

note :

* : The film was shot in 1996, showed at various festivals, and distributed in March 2003. It hasn't been issued in VHS or DVD yet.

C. Documentary films on Sonny Simmons

late 80's – early 90's **<director?>**

• *Everybody Needs A Little Heaven* (private VHS, USA)

According to Marc Chaloin, this documentary film shows Sonny Simmons before the times of his Ancient Ritual « come-back », playing in the Golden Gate Park (along with fellow saxophonist George Long) and talking about his life. The unknown director is reported to have worked in Peter Jackson's sound crew for the *Lord Of The Rings* trilogy, and to have won an Academy Award for it in 2003 : is it Christopher Boyes, Michael Hedges, Hammond Peek or Michael Semanick ?

97.00.00

AL DOUGLAS

- *The Sonny Simmons Saxophone Workshop* (internet trailer, France), 1997

After working on *Saxophone Legacy* (see above, section A., 97.00.00), Al Douglas launched a second project, « a saxophone teaching programme — *The Sonny Simmons Saxophone Workshop*, which, owing to a lack of investment/distributor, has never been finished » (Al Douglas in e-mail). Trailer is still available at www.bug-less.net/latv/trailers.htm, Al Douglas' website. [runtime 6 minutes]

99-00.00.00

BOB BREWSTER

- *In Modern Time* (documentary film, USA), 2004

On September 11, 2004, a documentary film by Bob Brewster – who followed Sonny Simmons' return in the USA in 1999-2001 (info courtesy of MC) – was screened at the Creative Jazz Alliance in Baltimore prior to a Sonny Simmons date*. Shooting took place in Oakland, in San Francisco, and during a specially appointed trip to Louisiana (Sicily Island notably). It also features musical sketches from a June 20, 1999 performance of the Bob Braye trio (Bob Braye, drums, Chuck Metcalf, bass, and guest Oluyemi Thomas on bass clarinet) in Oakland. [runtime 100 minutes approximately]

note :

* : Featuring Vattel Cherry (bass) and the Positive Force Trio (James McKinney, piano ; Ryan Tucker, guitar ; Chuck Ferrell, drums).

01-02.00.00

BRANDON EVANS

- *The Multiple Rated-X Truth*, Parallactic Film 03/DMG ARC (DVD, USA), 2003

« This film, shot and edited by Brandon Evans, has been in the making for ten months and is now completed. A film on the life of the great American Master Sonny Simmons, born August, 1933. Featuring extended interviews with Simmons himself, Anthony Braxton, & Juni Booth, plus great rare footage of Sonny Simmons playing alto saxophone and english horn in studio sessions and private rehearsals. True to its subject, 'multiple rated-X truth' chronicles in his own words the life of the legendary Sonny Simmons from his childhood in Louisiana to his years in San Francisco in the 80's. There are many extended anecdotes of the recording sessions with Eric Dolphy, his meetings with John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Prince Lasha, and many other musicians and historical figures of American culture, including the

late champion boxer, Archie Moore. An intense, inspiring story of a great American musician maturing amidst the backdrop of turbulent social and political change in the 60's until now. » (Original www.parallactic.com add.)

« Directed by local sax hero, composer and Braxton collaborator – Brandon Evans, this historic film runs 105 minutes and comes in a limited edition of 100. [...] Limited edition of 100 DVD-R copies. » (Original Downtown Music Gallery add.)

02-04.00.00

FRANÇOIS LUNEL

• *Together With Sonny Simmons (Life In Paris, Winter 2002)* (documentary film, France), 2004

On December 3, 2004, a documentary film by François Lunel – director of *Jours Tranquilles à Sarajevo* – was screened at l'Archipel jazz club in Paris prior to a Cosmosamatics date*. Shooting includes excerpts from the Jazz en Live à La Comedia concerts series (**02.11.29**). [runtime 40 minutes approximately]

note :

* : Featuring Sonny Simmons, Michael Marcus and Jay Rosen.

Others :

A friend of Brandon Evans, Joe McCune documented Sonny Simmons in the early 90's. He is reputed to have filmed most of Sonny Simmons' engagements at Espace and other venues in San Francisco, ca. 1993-1994. For instance, *Live In S.F. 1993* (see section A., **93.05.00**) is actually the audio track of one of his video works. (Info courtesy of MC.)

In 2004, Tom Priemon (www.photonality.com) advertised for a work built around a Sonny Simmons-Michael Marcus concert at the Tritone in Philadelphia.

We acknowledge that most of the following sections wouldn't exist without Marc Chaloin's extensive research, of which it is only a snippet. This section is (by essence) far to be complete, other material exists and may be listed here in the future.

Unvaluable thanks also to Bert Wilson, jazz legend, and his wife Nancy Curtis, for unveiling an unprecedented episode in the history of contemporary jazz.

May we precise that some entries, as it is the case with such listings of bootlegged and unreleased material, may be pure fancies...

63.05.00

SONNY ROLLINS

• **Sonny Rollins**

May 1963

RCA studios, NYC, USA

Following a concert at the Village Gate on April 22, 1963 (with Henry Grimes on bass and Charles Moffett on drums, and with/or without Prince Lasha), Sonny Simmons remembers entering RCA studios for a George Avakian-produced session. It was cut short after a few takes. Although no tape surfaced in RCA's archives, *Coda* mentions it twice : « Prince Lasha and Sonny Simmons have formed their own quintet in New York which includes Richard Davis. [...] Prince Lasha has also been working with Sonny Rollins and both he and Simmons are on an up-coming album of Rollins', which also has Don Cherry and Billy Higgins [Roy McCurdy according to Simmons] in the band » (June 1963, p. 17). « A new album, in the company of Sonny Rollins, may help to get them better known. If things don't pick up they'll head back to Los Angeles » (August 1963, p. 12).

68.00.00

BILL DIXON

• *University Of The Streets Orchestra* (private tape) *

1968

University of the Streets, NYC, USA

1. Large Orchestra Piece 1 (Bill Dixon) [29:00]
2. V + VI (Bill Dixon) [17:50]
3. XP (Bill Dixon) [18:00]
4. XY (Bill Dixon) [17:20]

Bill Dixon : trumpet, leader

Leo Jones : trumpet

Jacques Coursil : trumpet

Clifford Thornton : cornet

Richard Dunbar : french horn

Sam Burtis : trombone

Wesley Whittaker : trombone

John Buckingham : tuba)

Dave Chamberlain : flute, soprano saxophone

Marzette Watts : bass clarinet

Sonny Simmons : English horn

Monty Waters : bass-natural soprano saxophone

Leoponar Witlarge : alto saxophone
Sam Rivers : soprano sax and tenor saxophones
Arthur Doyle : tenor saxophone
Sonny Clark : baritone saxophone
Warren Chiasson : vibes
Susan Elrauch : mezzo-soprano voice

note :

* : Information taken from Ben Young's *Dixonia*.

70.00.00

BERT WILSON

• **Bert Wilson**, *Cosmic Communication* (private tape) *

Early 1970

Bert Wilson's house, Berkeley, USA

(titles unknown)

Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone, bass clarinet
Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Barbara Donald : trumpet
Bobby Addison : guitar
Bob Natanson : drums

note :

* : « There is a soft section when Zarak & Raisha, Barbara & Sonny's children (very small then) can be heard. It's sweet... Simmons directs this music: he's a fountain of themes and ideas that the rest of the musicians pick up on... » (Nancy Curtis)

70.00.00

BERT WILSON

• **Bert Wilson** (private tape)

1970

Bert Wilson's house, Berkeley, USA

(titles unknown)

Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone, bass clarinet
Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Barbara Donald : trumpet

David Kempton : RMI electric keyboard
Kenny Jenkins : bass
James Zitro : drums

70.00.00

JAMES ZITRO

• **James Zitro**, *Zytron Jam* (private tape) *

1970

Bert Wilson's house, Berkeley, USA

(titles unknown)

Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone, bass clarinet
Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone
Bobby Addison : guitar
David Kempton : RMI electric keyboard
Dennis Parker : bass guitar
James Zitro : drums

note :

* : « Unknown Date (probably 1970 as well). [...] This is a early incarnation of the Zytron Aquarian Ensemble with Simmons sitting in. » (Nancy Curtis)

70.06.19

BERT WILSON

• **Bert Wilson**, *The Age Of The Mutants/Cosmic Exchange And Universal Hearing* (private tape)

June 19, 1970

Berkeley, USA

1. The Age Of The Mutants (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Richard Birch/James Zitro)
2. Cosmic Exchanges And Universal Hearing (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Richard Birch/James Zitro) [60:00 approximately]

Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone
Sonny Simmons : bass clarinet (#2), alto saxophone
Richard Birch : bamboo flute
James Zitro : drums

70.07.23

BERT WILSON

• **Bert Wilson**, *Berkeley Mutation Center Summer Festival* (private tape)

July 23, 1970

Bert Wilson's home, Berkeley, USA

1. (untitled) (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/James Zitro)

Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone

Sonny Simmons : tenor saxophone

James Zitro : drums

70-71(?).12.17

BERT WILSON

• **Bert Wilson**, *Motational Symphonic Movement* (private tape) *

December 17, 1970 or 1971

Bert Wilson's house, Berkeley, USA

(titles unknown) [60:00 approximately]

Bert Wilson : tenor saxophone

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

John Gross (?) : tenor saxophone

Barbara Donald : trumpet

unknown (Gary Barone ?) : trumpet

James Zitro : percussion

note :

* : « The date Zitro wrote on the tape. [...] Probably 1970 or 1971 : most of Bert's BASF tapes are from that period. » (Nancy Curtis)

71.11.28

BERT WILSON

• **Bert Wilson**, *The Work Is Erected For The Glory Of God - & To Groove Mankind* (private tape)

November 28, 1971

Bert Wilson's home, Berkeley, USA

1. Fire And Beauty From A (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/John Mewborn/John Neumann/Smiley Winters) [40:35]

Bert Wilson : alto and tenor saxophones

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

John Mewborn : cornet

John Neumann : bass

William 'Smiley' Winters : drums, percussion

74.00.00

BERT WILSON

• **Bert Wilson** (private tape)

1974

Bert Wilson's house, Topanga Canyon, USA

1. Tres Cherbeaux (Bert Wilson)

2. Reunion In Space (Bert Wilson/Sonny Simmons/Barbara Donald/David Crane/Don Felix/Derek Driezen)

3. Ancient Ritual (Sonny Simmons)

Bert Wilson : alto and tenor saxophones

Sonny Simmons : alto saxophone

Barbara Donald : trumpet

Marty Krystal : tenor saxophone, bass clarinet (#3)

David Crane : piano

Don Felix : bass

Derek Driezen : percussion

74.04.30

BERT WILSON

• **Bert Wilson**, *In Old Topanga* (private tape) *

March 30, 1974

Bert Wilson's house, Topanga Canyon, USA

(titles unknown) [60:00 approximately]

Bert Wilson : soprano saxophone, bass clarinet

Sonny Simmons : tenor saxophone

Barbara Donald : trumpet

Kent Brinkley : bass

Reggie Golson : drums

note :

* : « Bert had relocated to the Los Angeles area with the Zytron band to record & hopefully get a record label to issue it (it didn't happen). This was one of Bert's regular sessions and Sonny & Barbara just showed up when it was starting. They had driven down from the San Francisco bay area with their 2 children and didn't have their horns with them. Sonny ends up playing Bert's tenor and Barbara plays a trumpet Bert had at his place. Both of them sound like their "chops" are down... Bert recalls that the whole family was stressed and the kids were acting up after having been "cooped up" together in a car for hours. Despite that, the music is listenable... »
(Nancy Curtis)

81.00.00

HI TIDE HARRIS

• **Hi Tide Harris**

In 1981 Sonny Simmons took part to a recording session under the leadership of Oakland guitarist and blues singer Hi Tide Harris. The group also featured Eddie Henderson (trumpet), 'Bishop' Norman Williams and Michael Marcus (saxes) – allegedly Simmons' first meeting with his future Cosmosamatics cohort. Hi Tide Harris was dissatisfied with the results and it was never published.

88.00.00

SONNY SIMMONS

- **Sonny Simmons**, *Shipwrecked*

1988 (?)

<location ?>, San Francisco, USA

For discussion on this session see section A., 88.00.00.

1993 (?)

SONNY SIMMONS

- **Sonny Simmons quartet**

Probably 1993

<location ?>

Unissued recording session featuring Sonny Simmons and quartet (Bob Braye, drums; Herbie Lewis, bass; unknown pianist) playing standards (including *White Christmas*) and produced by Craig Morton.

98.12.00

SONNY SIMMONS/GILBERT SIGRIST

- **Sonny Simmons-Gilbert Sigrist duo**

December 1998

Outtakes from the *Jours Tranquilles à Sarajevo* soundtrack (see section B., **98.12.00**), to be possibly issued by Sonny Simmons himself.

Sonny Simmons : tenor saxophone

Gilbert Sigrist: piano

99.05.00

NEW MILLENIUM SAXOPHONE ORCHESTRA

• **The New Millenium Saxophone Orchestra**

May 1999 (?)

New York, USA

Unissued recording session featuring Sonny Simmons, Michael Marcus, Oliver Lake, Frank Lowe and John Stubblefield on saxes.

00.02.00

SONNY SIMMONS

• **Sonny Simmons quartet + guests**

February 2000 (?)

Unissued recording session featuring the Sonny Simmons quartet plus guests Michael White (violin) and Matt Goff (didjeridoo). Produced by Craig Morton.

The liner notes for the *Manhattan Egos* CD reissue (2000) advertise these new recordings of the Sonny Simmons-Michael White pair.

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