

society. Album opener "Puma Punku" is a quick-moving molten slab of Mendoza's droning, over-driven guitar, Pérez' walloping drums and fluke-mogul's heavily-effected strings, generating and collapsing tornadoes of riffs and beats. "We Will Be Millions" is an update and reboot of the past forty years of aggro-guitar experimentation, Mendoza and fluke-mogul trading vibrato trills, Pérez dropping impressionistic beats. "Amazing Graces" holds the blues with one finger, dissipating in a tumult of staccato bowed-and-plucked strings.

Released this month, *Alive Alone, Alive Together* is a collection of eight live tracks recorded at four performances last year (the Summer Bummer Festival in Antwerp, plus solo performances from the US and Italy). Four tracks feature Mendoza solo, while the remaining are in collaboration with drummer Hamid Drake. The material includes new compositions along with reconceived and transformed versions of compositions previously found on her prior studio albums *The Circular Train* and *New Spells*. The expansive web of "Cypress Crossing" spreads tendrils of psych-leaning roots music, fractalized through echo and Mendoza pushing bluesy forms into soft splinters. Mendoza and Drake glide "Dust from the Mines" from hazy glimmers into deeper waters. Album closer "New Ghosts" is an 11-minute jam with Drake that slowly builds into the guitarist's accelerating esoteric arpeggios, the drummer matching her travels into welcomed, strange sonic terrain.

Both albums are impressive releases, both on-point for Mendoza's refreshing agenda on modern guitar moves.

For more info visit burningambulancemusic.bandcamp.com

ON SCREEN



Journey to Luray
David Haney/Yael Acher "KAT" Modiano
(Cadence Media)
by Paul Gaita

A popular tourist spot in West Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Luray Caverns is also home to the Great Stalacpipe Organ, a confluence of geology, acoustics and electrical engineering, a sprawling instrument that essentially uses the cave's natural geological formations to create low tones that resemble that of marimbas. Much of the Great Stalacpipe Organ's unique sound is thus formed by natural acoustics over 3.5 acres of the cave itself; the result is, as one might expect, haunting and ethereal. Recordings heretofore have been limited largely to those by its creator Leland W. Sprinkle, a mathematician and electronics scientist who conceived the idea in the early '50s, and later, organist Monte Maxwell. But pianist and *Cadence* magazine publisher David Haney and flutist Yael Acher "KAT" Modiano were inspired to venture into the Caverns' depths to

perform an improvised duet on what is acknowledged as the largest instrument in the world.

The 40-minute *Journey to Luray* is a two-part documentary, with the first a composite of video footage, still images by photographer Patrick Haney, and audio from Haney and Modiano's appearance on Dave Sewelson's "Music For a Free World" radio program on 91.1 WFMU-FM (broadcasted out of Jersey City, NJ). Narration (rather flat), by Ava Martin, provides some context into the Caverns' and Organ's history and the performance itself, but the second half is the duet in its entirety. Haney's photographs again provide the images, which are aesthetically pleasing but also somewhat static (actual footage may have been difficult, given the location, but it's missed). Modiano's flute playing dominates the recording; her playing is pensive and evocative of Eastern modalities before moving into more freeform territory as the piece reaches its conclusion.

The Great Stalacpipe Organ is harder to hear in the documentary, but what is notable are the gentle sonic tides produced by Haney's playing and the soft, rumbling clatter of the mallets that strike the stalactites to produce the Organ's tones. The overall effect is similar to one of Moondog's longer creations, or the work of avant gardist Harry Partch: meditative, somewhat earthy and unearthly at the same time—and wholly unique.

For more info visit cadencejazzworld.com. Acher is at Intercession Church Jun. 7, Barzakh Cafe Jun. 20 and Dutch Baby Jun. 24. See Calendar.

JAZZ ON THE PLAZA

THURSDAYS
12:30PM

OUTDOOR PUBLIC PLAZA AT

SAINT PETER'S CHURCH / 601 LEXINGTON

THE ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE
CONSERVANCY AT SAINT PETER'S

Grand Central
PARTNERSHIP

NYC
Cultural
Affairs

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BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION

September 3
Juilliard

September 10
The New School

September 17
William Paterson
University

September 24
Manhattan School
of Music



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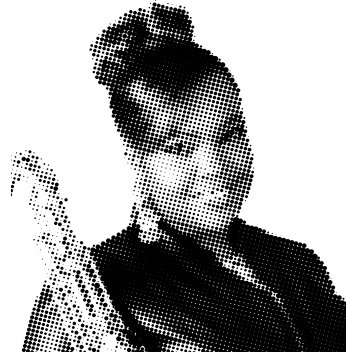
July 9
April Varner



July 16
Tyler Bassett



July 23
Benny Benack III



July 30
Camille Thurman



August 6
Eitan Kenner



August 13
June Cavlan



August 20
Wayne Tucker



August 27
Leonieke Scheuble