

JAZZ

ADULT ORIENTED MUSIC

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On the surface, saxophonist Ivo Perelman wouldn't appear to have much in common with Wynton Marsalis. The truth, though, is that both are steeped in the jazz tradition. Whereas Marsalis' tradition is the legacy of Miles Davis, Perelman explores, in a striking and singular manner, the legacies of Albert Ayler and the latter-period John Coltrane. Recorded live at the Knitting Factory in New York last year and released by Video Arts International, the hour-long set features the South American reedman performing traditional, folk-type compositions, all arranged and adapted by the leader. Stellar sidemen include vocalist Flora Purim, who adapts to this challenging situation admirably, pianist Geri Allen, and percussionist Andrew Cyrille. Writer Norman Weinstein summed up Perelman's playing by saying the saxophonist "plays the prospects Coltrane's experimentation opened up." Whether Coltrane would be playing like this today is something we'll never know. Let it just be said that this is often difficult, sometimes childlike and joyous, but constantly striking and challenging music.

