

NASTY
MOOR WRITER
JAMES ELROY

ERASURE ABBAFIED! • MOTORHEAD MAGNIFIED!

REFLEX

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IVO PERELMAN

Children of Ibeji
(Enja/Mesa/Bluemoon)

Not since Gato Barbieri slipped away from his *Chapter 1* phase has a South American saxophonist so effectively combined throaty tenor textures, rich ethnic melodies, and inventive—often wild—improvisations.

Perelman fills the void with panache while raising our consciousness on the plight of orphaned Brazilian children, whose daily routines of survival include prostitution, thievery, and escaping paramilitary exterminators. The disc's riveting theme focuses on Ibeji, the god of children of the *Candomblé* religion, a synthesis of West African Yoruban and Christian practices. With an all-star band recalling Charlie Haden's Liberation Orchestra, the traditional songs are stunning anthems to the sacredness of children, while pleading for their salvation. Perelman plays with intense emotion . . . from the gut.

—Harry Stamatakis