

Rufus Reid's "Quiet Pride – The Elizabeth Catlett Project" A Five-Movement Suite that Honors Elizabeth Catlett

Reid has paired his evolution into jazz composition with his respect and admiration for a fellow artist in a different discipline, famed African-American sculptress Elizabeth Catlett. Reid has created five brilliant orchestral compositions inspired by Catlett's work. The result is his recording, "Quiet Pride" released by Motéma Music, February, 2014. This CD received two nominations for the 57th GRAMMY Awards; Best Large Jazz Ensemble and Best Instrumental Composition for 'Recognition' the first movement of this suite.

Elizabeth Catlett was a remarkable artist and a civil rights activist. Today, Catlett's work can be found in the collections of the White House, the Museum of Modern Art, and of private collections such as Oprah Winfrey, Bill Cosby, and jazz impresario George Wein.

Reid had the good fortune to become friends with Elizabeth Catlett several years before her death in 2012. The inspiration for this large ensemble work, "Quiet Pride" was Reid's fascination with five specific sculptural pieces from Catlett's collection. "You know how you can spend hours in a gallery, just letting the images sink in? I found myself responding to the shapes and lines in Elizabeth's work. While there is no 'absolute' correspondence, I do feel that she inspired me to mix my own shapes and lines," explained Reid, whose suite movements are inspired by Catlett's sculptures; Recognition, Mother & Child, Stargazer (Tapestry In The Sky), Singing Head and Glory.

This music was initially made possible in 2006 through the generosity of the Dr. Raymond and Beverly Sackler Composition Commission. Reid is extremely pleased to have had the opportunity to record his music with a hand picked stellar ensemble. The goal of "Quiet Pride" is to showcase the extraordinary life and talent of Elizabeth Catlett along with a phenomenal jazz orchestra, which will enlighten, entertain, inform and stimulate conversation and study between the arts.

"Quiet Pride – The Elizabeth Catlett Project" is available for booking

Quiet Pride has been performed in concert halls, universities and clubs.
A 20-piece ensemble ~ a five-movement, 75-minute concert

Performance Options:

- Full ensemble, includes Rufus Reid on bass and a Conductor
 - Rufus' Rhythm Section and vocalist, with your musicians
 - Rufus as Conductor only – your musicians

In each case, a minimum of two days for rehearsal prior to concert