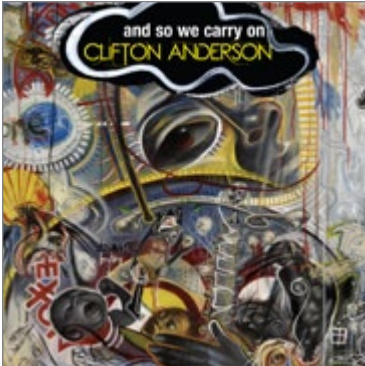


Clifton Anderson



and so we carry on

Clifton Anderson's latest offering on Daywood Drive Records "And So We Carry On" showcases six great new original compositions and three uniquely arranged standards. All are combined with stellar performances from both Clifton, his working group and an impressive list of guest artists including Kenny Garrett, Monty Alexander, Wallace Roney, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Bob Cranshaw, Warren Wolf, Steve Jordan, Kimati Dinizulu and Victor See Yuen.

DONALD VEGA (piano)
ERIC WYATT (tenor sax)
ESSIET ESSIET (bass)
STEVE WILLIAMS (drums)

Special Guest Artists:

**MONTY ALEXANDER, BOB CRANSHAW, KIMATI DINIZULU,
KENNY GARRETT, STEVE JORDAN, WALLACE RONEY,
JEFF "TAIN" WATTS, WARREN WOLF and VICTOR SEE YUEN**

The Music

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| ► <u>And So We Carry On</u> | 8:07 |
| ► <u>Where or When</u> | 6:04 |
| ► <u>Niokim</u> | 6:19 |
| ► <u>Tomorrow</u> | 9:54 |
| ► <u>Alexer Is</u> | 10:11 |
| ► <u>Bacalou Tonight</u> | 4:55 |
| ► <u>Falling in Love with Love</u> | 6:14 |
| ► <u>Remember This</u> | 6:40 |
| ► <u>Mitsuru</u> | 5:24 |



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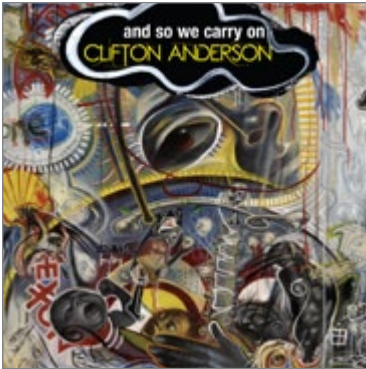
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Stop and listen.

Clifton Anderson



and so we carry on

Liner Notes

Gary Walker WBGO/wbgo.org

Ralph Ellison said, "In the swift whirl of time music is a constant, reminding us of what we were and of that toward which we aspire. Art thou troubled? Music will not only calm, it will enable thee".

Your search has brought you to the latest creative effort of trombonist Clifton Anderson, whose own search started with an outing at age 7 with his mother to see a production of The Music Man. It was 76 trombones that grabbed him, but just one, given to him by his uncle Sonny Rollins that opened Clifton's curiosity. Mother and father, a Schubert Society singer and gifted church organist respectively, gave Clifton at home initiative to carry on. High School of Music & Art and Manhattan School of Music provided pedigree. Internal combustion led to work with McCoy Tyner, Stevie Wonder, Frank Foster and Slide Hampton's World of Trombones. And for almost three decades he has stood alongside Sonny Rollins in musical travels around the world.

And so he carries on, with an impressive array of friends who enable us to feel better after one listen. **And So We Carry On** was captured in one take. Clifton's comfort with his horn moves the tempo of the piece, and engages vibraphonist Warren Wolf and Kenny Garrett's soprano sax to jump in for the ride. Pianist Donald Vega, bassist Essiet Essiet, the inventive hands of Jeff "Tain" Watts on drums and percussionist Kimati Dinizulu aid the feeling we get when musical minds like these are having fun. This was to be "Tain's" only track, but after he wanted to stay for more!

"It seems we stood and talked like this before...". Count Basie, Clifford Brown, Harry James, Oscar Peterson, Stan Getz and Duke Ellington have all been **Where Or When**. But this is no déjà vu; rather an intuitive romp with Rodgers & Hart, as the interplay between Anderson and trumpeter Wallace Roney confirms. Drummer Steve Williams, who gave us so many moments with Shirley Horn, provides a nice spark. And pianist Donald Vega shows why he's one of the most unknown most talked abouts around.

Next is **Niokim**. Musicians are so damn lucky. We have to search stores for gifts for that special person; gifts someone else made. It's not always right, is it? Here, Clifton crafts a love, which says it right for all the reasons. I'll bet he bought lunch for Monty Alexander, Bob Cranshaw and old high school friend Steve Jordan who tie a nice bow on this 4/4 box for Clifton's lady.

[Continued on next page](#)



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From "Annie", Clifton's interpretation of **Tomorrow** brings out the sun – right now! Once again, Monty, Bob and Steve give the go ahead to shine, as Anderson slides along with tenor saxophonist Eric Wyatt, who first knocked us out with his work on Clifton's "Decade" release a few years back. Here the guys bet their bottom dollar and won. Clifton's arrangement has put spiffy new duds on this one for the winners' circle.

Patience is often missing from music today. **Alexer Is**, an original Clifton put together at the piano one morning for his mother, gives ballad-wise Wallace Roney a gorgeous turn here, with pianist Donald Vega using his palette beautifully. The subtle coloring gives the trombone space to move us to a place we might not come to often enough.

Who doesn't need a vacation? **Baccalou Tonight** is a feast waiting for the end of the day. Here Clifton calls upon heritage and his sense memories of working with the Mighty Sparrow, one of the baddest calypsonians ever to do that dance. Monty Alexander revels in his own upbringing, along with Wyatt's tenor, Cranshaw's bass, Jordan on drums with percussionists Victor See Yuen and Kimati Dinizulu adding all the right spice to the stew.... think I'll put in for some time off.

Another Rodgers & Hart to heart continues the journey. Originally a waltz from the 1938 show "The Boys From Syracuse", **Falling In Love With Love** gets a fast paced treatment from the boys who refuse to moldy fig this one. Clifton and Monty turn it up with Cranshaw's bass and Jordan's drum work urging them on.

Remember This is an original by the leader and a nice workout for Clifton using a cup mute he found covered with dust years back on a forgotten shelf at Manny's Music Store in New York. The plaintive introduction, which then takes us up to speed, suggests the search in our own lives we should never abandon. Like finding a new favorite place or favorite food, pianist Vega and bassist Essiet enjoy the discoveries here as well.

Clifton Anderson's travels around the world have provided pause to enjoy the spirit of others. **Mitsuru** is a tribute to Mitsuru Nishiyama, a Japanese club owner, bassist and educator whose Osaka club was a must stop.... not for the club's notoriety, but rather the vibe of the man, who snuck onto army bases as a teenager to catch an Ellington or Coleman Hawkins performance. Here the ensemble comes out of the gate. Clifton fires it up, pausing for the sunrise, then on about the excitement of the tune. Warren Wolf's vibes carry a high-octane tone, passing the lead to tenorist Wyatt finding new paths. All this working alongside the leader and Vega's piano, Essiet's bass and Watts drum work. This is why Tain waited around that day; all as one for a man Sonny Rollins called "Nishi".

Clifton Anderson has studied hard and lived with both eyes and ears open. His music here is intended as an antidote for some of the harmful ways and hurtful stories.

Take a good look at the cover of the cd - what do you see? Clifton's music and attitude addresses those feelings. What's your cover story, morning glory? This music might just inspire you to go out and create a new one. And So We Carry On...

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Photo: John Abbott

Bio

Clifton Anderson was born on October 5, 1957 in Harlem, New York City. He grew up surrounded by music. His father was a church organist/choir director, and his mother a singer and pianist. It was no surprise that Clifton exhibited an affinity for music at an early age. When he was seven years old, he got his very first trombone, a gift from his uncle, legendary tenor saxophonist Sonny Rollins.

Clifton attended the prestigious Fiorello LaGuardia High School of Music and Art in New York City and is a graduate of The Manhattan School Of Music. In 1983, Clifton got the call to join his uncle Sonny on the road. For over three decades, he performed as a member of Sonny's group and toured extensively with him around the world. Clifton has also appeared on ten of his recordings and has produced four releases for Sonny's label, Doxy Records.

In 1997, Clifton released his first recording as a leader/producer on the Milestone label entitled Landmarks. Landmarks received critical acclaim internationally and made the top ten playlists on US Jazz radio coast to coast. At the end of 2007, Clifton went back into the studio as a leader to produce the highly anticipated, critically-acclaimed Decade (2009).

Clifton has worked and performed with a "who's who" of diverse musical legends, such as Stevie Wonder, McCoy Tyner, Frank Foster, Slide Hampton's World Of Trombones, Dizzy Gillespie, The Mighty Sparrow, Lester Bowie, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Paul Simon, Carlos Garnett, Terumasa Hino, Keith Richards, Muhal Richard Abrams, WyClef Jean, Geri Allen, T.S. Monk, and Charlie Haden, among others.



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Photos

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Promo Video



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