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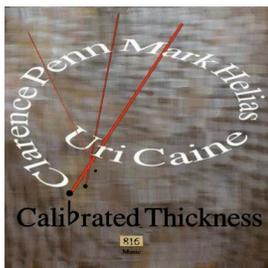
## Uri Caine: The Latest Projects



By **ANGELO LEONARDI**  
October 12, 2016  
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The last two albums **Uri Caine** confirmed his stature as a multifaceted and unclassifiable musician. The Philadelphia pianist ranges always between schools and genres with disenchantment and critical spirit and is one of the rare composers and performers today expressing constant originality.

In these two discs, self-produced, we have no stylistic surprises, just great music. In *Calibrated Thickness* find a jazzman in the round in a stellar trio and *Space Kiss* is a project that indirectly Polish composer Witold Lutoslawski celebrates the seven original compositions performed together with Lutoslawski Quartet.



Uri Caine, Mark Helias, Clarence Penn  
*Calibrated Thickness*  
 816 Music  
 2015  
 Rating: \* \* \* \* 1/2

The last recording of Uri Caine trio went back to 2011 with the album *Siren*, created together with [John Hébert](#) and [Ben Perowsky](#). The present work documents the culmination of a partnership started a few years ago with bassist [Mark Helias](#) and drummer [Clarence Penn](#). Training is next to make a European tour which will also reach Italy in October (with stops in Bollate, Florence and Padua).

The three are longtime partners. Uri Caine was together with the bass player in the group of [Don Byron](#) and drummer in the quintet [Dave Douglas](#). The expressive affinities and interplay are palpable in all the album's tracks, ranging mainly three broad areas of expression: an extrovert rich in straight-ahead swing and funky veins, abstract exploration into free improvisation, and finally lyrics ballad tinged with classical references. In three exploratory cut songs fits sharp cornet [Kirk Knuffke](#): dynamic "Submission" and "Hidden Glances," thoughtful "Shadow of a Doubt."

The various pieces are all of the pianist and alternate during the disco offering a colorful and compelling stylistic spectrum, ranging from moments of abstract (or chamber) lyricism other voltage throbbing. A lively and inspiring music, shining and chromatically strong impact that will engage the listener.



Uri Caine Quartet -Lutoslawski  
*Space Kiss*  
 816 Music  
 2016  
 Rating: \* \* \* \* 1/2

Some concerts of Uri Caine along with Lutoslawski Quartet were presented last June in New York, at the event sponsored by the US Jazztopad Wroclaw Festival. This album collects performances commissioned by the Polish festival organizers and performed in the past on several occasions. The young organic--nato in 2007-is one of the preeminent quartet organic strings of Poland: his collaborations have ranged from classical musicians (Bruno Canino, Garrick Ohlsson, Kevin Kenner) to leading jazzmen such as [Kenny Wheeler](#) and [John Taylor](#).

The disc the quartet performs written parts while the pianist carves considerable scope

executions dynamically changing although prevail pressing moments, with the quartet perform frantic stubborn or intricate collective parties. Exceptions, however, are not lacking. In "Your Eyes Like Doves" the climate is predominantly romantic (with a few surprises in the second half) and composition winds favoring radiant atmospheres and evanescent. Another moment of sharp lyricism is the solemn "Prayer" even if the melody

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<p>Mahler: Urlicht - Primal Light / Caine, Bensoussan, et al.                  \$11.91 <del>\$20.98</del>                  (26)</p>	<p>Calibrated Thickness                  \$14.77                  (1)</p>
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unfolds slowly into abstract forms.

List of songs and musicians

*Calibrated Thickness*

Calibrated Thickness: Manhatta; Woke Up This Morning; icicles; submission; Golem; Bleeding Heart; Night Wrestler; Climb to the Top; Hidden Glances; Scatterbrain Suite; He Said She; Sticks and Stones; Time in Between; Shadow of a Doubt; Downward Spiral.

Uri Caine: piano; Mark Helias: bass; Clarence Penn: drums; Kirk Knuffke: handset.

*Space Kiss*

Knucklehead; Space Kiss; Your Eyes Like Doves; Past Is Present; Zephyr; Burlesque; Prayer.

Uri Caine: piano; Bartosz Woroch: 1st violin; Marcin Markowicz: 2nd violin; Artur Rozmyslowicz: purple; Maciej Młodawski: cello.

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Uri Caine Trio - Manhatta



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