

New Issues

1) BARRY ELMES REDSHIFT

CORNERSTONE 137

*READING WEEK / STUMPY /
BRIEF SANCTUARY* / REDSHIFT
/ THE REINCARNATION OF
RATBOY*+ / THEME FOR
STERLING HAYDEN+ / THIS IS
FOR ALBERT / THE BRUSH-OFF /
ABIDE WITH ME*+. 57:52.*

Elmes, d;
Mike Murley, ts;
Kevin Turcotte, tpt, flgh;
Reg Schwager, g;
Steve Wallace, b;
Kelly Jefferson, flt, ts*;
Vanessa Rodrigues, org+.

Dec. 17-18, 2010,
Toronto, Canada.

“Redshift” is a blast of modern mainstream Jazz from the Toronto area. Drummer Elmes may be the leader but he does not dominate the session. He’s content to bob and weave underneath the slippery intertwining lines set up by the three-man front line of Schwager, Murley, and Turcotte. The pieces are all within normal Jazz parameters but still sound original. “Reading Week” is a twisty Blues with shifting tempos and “Stumpy” and “Red Shift” are laidback, Hard Bop shuffles. “Brief Sanctuary” and “Ratboy” are both built on underlying Baroque rhythms. “Sanctuary” has Turcotte sailing against the jaunty unison tenors of Murley and guest Jefferson while “Ratboy” is a perky little round enlivened by flute, wah wah trumpet and organ. “Sterling Hayden” is a downbeat ballad melody with organ and Schwager’s liquid guitar prominent while Wayne Shorter’s “This Is for Albert” is a waltz that swirls into lively Hard Bop. Through it all, Murley, Turcotte and the other front players provide strong, exuberant soloing and Elmes and bassist Wallace are a supportive and engaged rhythm section.

Jerome Wilson