

# Improvijazzation Nation

Music and Opinion for the 21st Century

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On this day of political intrigue and mudslinging, there's nothing more refreshing than music from a band unknown (to me, at least), and this group from the land to the North of U.S. is just what I needed to hear on the day after our elections! As you listen to pieces like the 8:19 opener, "Snaggle #7", it will be easy to hear why I was so energized & renewed... the changes on this track alone are worth the purchase of the album... they roll from a 2-cool bassline right on into some of the "bluesiest" song material you'll ever listen to! I was totally smitten by the Rhodes intro from Nick MacClean on "Track 5" ... the tune goes for over 7 minutes, so there's plenty of room for each of the players to express their own take on the piece, too. Of the ten compositions offered up for your long-term listening pleasure, it was the title track, "The Long Slog", that got my vote for personal favorite... one of the best (and most fresh) jazz tunes I've heard (yet) in 2016! What's most striking about this group is that they are continually challenging the "norm", so what you get will be completely fresh and new. I give this band a MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, with an "EQ" (energy quotient) rating of 4.99.

*-Dick Metcalf*