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Creating unity within an album for compositions defined as "jazz style"

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**Creating Unity Within An Album For
Compositions
Defined As “Jazz Style”**

**A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the award of the degree**

MASTER OF CREATIVE ARTS RESEARCH

from

The University of Wollongong

by

Edward Goyer

FACULTY OF CREATIVE ARTS

2008

Thesis Certification

Certification

I, Edward Goyer, declare that this thesis, submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award Master of Creative Arts Research, in the department of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong, is wholly my own work unless otherwise referenced or acknowledged. The document has not been submitted for qualification at any other academic institution.

Edward Goyer

26 March 2008

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ABSTRACT

Unity is an important factor when I compose music as it creates a sense of logic elements upon which the language of music can be communicated to the listeners. By the term 'listener' I am referring to anyone, novice or educated, who listens to my music. Without the logic of unity, communication breaks down and the language of music consisting of both emotional and structural elements is no longer experienced by the listener.

As part of my compositional approach, I have developed a set of rules that would allow unity to be created throughout the pieces to be recorded on the album. During the compositional process, it occurred to me that the largest unifying factor between all my compositions is that they were all written in "jazz fusion style".

If I was to consider style as a unifying feature, I needed to come up with a definition for what I believe qualifies my compositions as having been stylistically composed and performed as jazz, a major part of which, is the process of interplay and interaction between members of the ensemble.

All the compositions on the album were recorded live with no multi-tracking or overdubbing. Using a live recording creates the maximum amount of interaction and interplay amongst the ensemble members necessary for my definition of jazz style in my compositions. It is my aim that the listener should be able to experience unifying factors between my compositions in some form while listening to the recording provided. They

should also be able to recognize elements of interaction and interplay between ensemble members creating a sense of jazz style throughout my compositions.

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