# SERENITY

### THE LOUIS ROMANOS QUARTET



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## LRQ | SERENITY

**SERENITY**, the new album from The Louis Romanos Quartet, tells captivating stories for the pleasure and edification of any listener in search of that special uplifting that only comes through joyful musical expression.

The LRQ is locked together in an exhilarating web of empathy and shared pursuit, built upon the blueprint laid out by Louis through his leadership with directions established by his terrific compositions and arrangements. Weaving Latin, Middle Eastern and Far Eastern influences into a jazz framework, further spiced with the unique multicultural landscape absorbed through his fifteen years in New Orleans, Louis' compositions are ideal launching points for spirited and viscerally rhythmic sonic improvisation.

Romanos is truly a great drummer, always inventive, rhythmically flawless and fresh, and thoroughly musical, not only providing the ideal firmament for the improvisational journey, but fully participating in its contextual evolution. His two solos are sensational – filled with lyricism, and vibrant in groove. He is always consummately creative, consistently adding luster and sparkle that deepens the tale being told.

And wonderful tales they are, beginning with the opening piece, **JUST PRETEND** (5:33). A nicely syncopated trumpet and guitar line built upon a virile bass ostinato, it features an expressive rock-tinged guitar solo, a deeply wooded bass excursion and a vividly rhythmic drum solo spiced by afro-beat guitar, joined by the bass to bring it to climax.

Romanos' musical proficiency and enjoyment of his work shines in this album. In his New Orleans inspired **FUNKLE LOU** (7:14), his drumming and Lombardi's Latin-influenced bass groove through the song while Noppe's soulful trumpet and Sumner's gritty guitar refuse to allow the listener to sit still.

**SERENITY IN DISSOLUTION** (5:50) opens with Sumner's gentle classically influenced guitar. The song slowly drifts into a musical dream that feels like time stands still in tranquil beauty. Throughout the piece, Romanos' drums support the other three musicians as they build, take apart, and rebuild the song to its serene conclusion.

Bassist Luca Lombardi's somber arco in **KLOZOLA** (4:25) transitions to pizzicato as Noppe's flugelhorn and Sumner's guitar create a mood of open sky and airy breezes.

**WITCHES BREW** (4:15) demonstrates Romanos' gift as a composer as well as an extraordinary percussionist. Jazzy, sometimes frenzied, yet other times seemingly completely chaotic, the musicians keep firm control even as the song gets darker and more dissonant before subsiding into an appeasing and breathless exit.

The appeal of this album, besides its eclecticism, is the unexpected; something delightful and surprising in every song.

# RELEASE DATE FEBRUARY 2017

### track list:

- 1. JUST PRETEND 5:33
- 2. FUNKLE LOU 7:14
- 3. HOME AGAIN 4:06
- 4. KLOZOLA 4:25
- 5. OLD SOUL 4:50
- 6. TAKE A HIKE 4:02
- 7. SERENITY

IN DISSOLUTION 5:50

- 8. SONG FOR CHARLIE 3:56
- 9. WITCHES BREW 4:15



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### **BOOKING:**

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