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Neo-Modernism

Artist [Either/Orchestra](#)

Album Title Neo-Modernism

Date of Release Sep 2, 2003

AMG Rating ★★★★★

Genre [Jazz](#)

Tones Witty, Rousing, Complex, Fun, Energetic, Irreverent, Gutsy

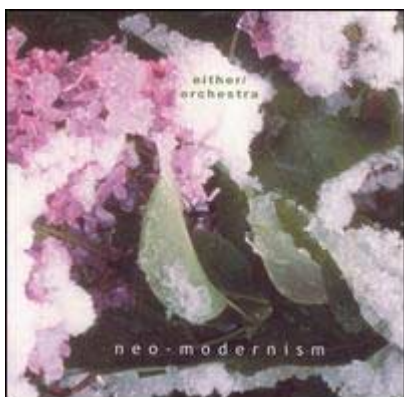
Styles [Modern Creative](#), [Post-Bop](#), [Modern Big Band](#), [Avant-Garde Jazz](#), [Experimental Big Band](#)

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AMG REVIEW



Over the years, saxophonist [Russ Gershon](#) (the Either/Orchestra's founder/leader) has firmly believed in keeping his options open. [Gershon](#)'s band has been greatly influenced by what jazz musicians call "the tradition" (straightahead jazz instead of fusion, crossover jazz or the avant-garde), but he isn't a slave to it—he realizes that outside playing is also a valid option. And even though the Either/Orchestra has been dominated by acoustic instruments, [Gershon](#) doesn't believe that electric instruments are inherently evil. That open-minded outlook continues to serve the Either/Orchestra well on *Neo-Modernism*, which was recorded in 2001 and finds [Gershon](#)

leading a ten-person lineup that includes two trumpeters ([Tom Halter](#) and [Colin Fisher](#)), three saxophonists ([Jeremy Udden](#), [Charlie Kohlhas](#) and [Gershon](#) himself) and a trombonist ([Joel Yennior](#)) as well as pianist/keyboardist [Greg Burk](#), bassist [Rick McLaughlin](#), drummer [Harvey Wright](#) and percussionist [Vicente Lebron](#). While *Neo-Modernism* favors an inside/outside approach (more inside than outside), the album is only mildly avant-garde—and [Gershon](#), true to form, oversees a session that is free-spirited but always musical and never mindlessly chaotic. This time, there are no arrangements of popular songs or standards; [Gershon](#) wrote everything on the album except the angular "Fast Edd," which was written by former Either/Orchestra bassist [Bob Nieske](#). And the compositions draw on a variety of influences, including [Thelonious Monk](#) on "Baby Invents Monk," [Charles Mingus](#) on "The Modernist" and [Miles Davis](#) on the funky yet abstract "Heavily Amplified Hairpiece". The latter is full of electric keyboard playing and recalls [Davis](#)' fusion output of the late '60s and early to mid-'70s; it definitely has that [Bitches Brew/Get Up with It/Tribute to Jack Johnson](#) type of vibe. But whoever the Either/Orchestra is thinking of on a particular piece, [Gershon](#)'s

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outfit is always distinctive and recognizable. With *Neo-Modernism*, [Gershon](#) offers yet another reason to be excited about his Either/Orchestra. — **Alex Henderson**

SONGS/TRACKS



- ✓ 1. [Los Olvidados](#) performed by Either / Orchestra - 7:25
- 2. [Baby Invents Monk](#) performed by Either / Orchestra - 6:58
- ✓ 3. [The Modernist](#) performed by Either / Orchestra - 9:17
- 4. [Fast Edd](#) performed by Either / Orchestra - 11:19
- 5. [Heavily Amplified Hairpiece](#) performed by Either / Orchestra - 8:35

CREDITS



[Charlie Kohlhase](#) - Sax (Baritone)
[Russ Gershon](#) - Sax (Soprano), Sax (Tenor), Producer, Mixing, Package Design
[Tom Halter](#) - Trumpet, Soloist
[Paul Q. Kolderie](#) - Mixing
[Harvey Wirht](#) - Cymbals, Drums, Cowbell
[Rob Pemberton](#) - Engineer
[Jeff Lipton](#) - Mastering
[Rick McLaughlin](#) - Bass
[Joel Yennior](#) - Trombone
[Colin Fisher](#) - Trumpet, Soloist
[Jeremy Udden](#) - Sax (Alto)
[Vicente Lebron](#) - Percussion, Bongos, Conga
[Gregory Burk](#) - Piano, Moog Synthesizer, Fender Rhodes, Univox
[Eszter Gal](#) - Photography

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Some of Both

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Energizing, Exciting <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Soothing, Relaxing <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A |
| Dense, Thick <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Light, Free, Transparent <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A |
| Harsh, Aggressive <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Gentle, Peaceful <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A |
| Cold, Firm <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Warm, Soft <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A |
| Bright, Dynamic, Ornate <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Low Key, Calm, Melancholic <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A |
| Popular, Plain, Simple <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Elaborate, Sophisticated <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A |
| Dark, Pessimistic, Bitter <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Light, Cheerful, Sweet <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A |
| Emotional, Sensual, Playful <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Sober, Arranged, Proper <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A |

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