

Featured Artist: Either/Orchestra

CD Title: Neo-Moderism

Year: 2003

Record Label: Accurate Records

Style: Big Band / Swing

Musicians: Rick McLaughlin—Bass; Greg Burk—Piano; Jeremy Udden—Saxophones; Tom Halter—Trumpet; Colin Fisher—Trumpet; Joel Yennior—Trombone; Russ Gershon—Saxophones; Charles Kohlhase—Saxophones; Harvey Wirht—Drums; Vincente Lebron—Percussion.

Review: I don't know about neo-modernism as a literary theory, but as the title of Either/Orchestra's new recording on Accurate Records it does reflect the broad-minded big band scoring of bandleader Russ Gershon. Gershon's compositions wink at John Coltrane ("Los Olvidados"), Monk via Steve Lacy ("Baby Invents Monk") and the love child of Miles and Sun Ra ("The Modernist"). Either/Orchestra is more like a Scandinavian big band than an American one as the band's propensity for daring performance is not in keeping with the relative conservatism of most American big bands.

If the listener is looking for Glenn Miller, do not look to the Either/Orchestra. While E/O is the natural extension of the Swing Big Band, the two are not the same animal. If the listener is looking to expand his or her musical horizons, I can think of no better way than with Neo-Modernism.

Tracks: Los Olvidados; Baby Invents Monk; The Moderist; Fast Edd; Hevily Amplified Hairpiece.

Record Label Website: www accuraterecords.com/

Artist's Website: <http://www.either-orchestra.org/>

Reviewed by: [C. Michael Bailey](#)