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Artist :: [Felipe Salles](#)
Album :: [Mind Motions](#)
Year :: [2003](#)
Label :: [Fresh Sounds New Talent](#)
Review by :: [Wes Gillespie](#)



Saxman Felipe Salles latest album 'Mind Motions' continues on his musical journey of last year when he released his 'Further South' set on his own Fresh Sounds New Talent label.

Although born in Brazil with all that country's passion for rhythm and romance, Felipe doesn't particularly lean to a Brazilian influence but fuses more towards a musical embrace of many different jazz genres which include classic bebop, avant garde, Latin and free jazz. Yes many of the tracks do have a distinct Latin rhythm attached to them but Felipe's playing is a more free-form exchange with a tonal pallet with long impressionistic montages.

He has assembled a wonderful collection of musicians for this new set including pianist Nando Michelin who is the catalyst of support and drives the rhythm trio along with the percussionist Ernesto Diaz and Pedro Ito. Trumpeter Tony D'Aveni and trombone of Joel Yennior provides the close harmonies with Felip's tenor sax which are often liberated and dynamically rhythmic. The strings of Laura Arpiainen, Sam Ou and bass of Rick McLaughlin give this album a powerhouse sound with solid syncopated drumming by Bertram Lehmann.

Two of the tracks 'The Return Of The Chromo Sapiens' and the opening 'Freudian Slip' have already won awards in Cuba and

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Spain in Jazz competitions highlighting their originality and accessibility.

Other tracks on the album highlight Felipe's diverse influences and appeal with 'Laura's Nightmare' inspired by his own wife's experience and showcases a rather dark side which might be apparent in a night of restless slumber. His tenor sax throbs out intense minor key riffs with challenging counterplay by Nando Michelin, a track with a Weather Report 'Heavy Weather' appeal.

'Sphere' has a definite contemporary feel to it with splashes of bebop and Charlie Parker evident in the aloof style of Bird and breaks with wonderful trumpet and piano solos by D'Aveni and Michelin.

'Magister Joe' is Felipe's tribute to the late, great Joe Henderson and is an eleven minute three-part suite inspired by Herman Hess' 'The Glass Bead Game' and is a dazzling display of improvisation and straight ahead jazz at its best.

'Mind Motions' represents the work of not only a great musician and composer but one who combines simple elements from everyday life into his music. Felipe's synergy of North, South and Central America are all evident in this thought provoking album.

The tracks are harmonically and melodically fresh and the set will appeal to a wide range of fans from contemporary to Latin and one which is definitely worth adding to your collection.

