

## Unsigned Artist of the Month



### Daniel Koppelman

#### Escapement

If the phrase "experimental 21st century music" makes you want to hide in a corner, Daniel Koppelman's got just the thing. *Escapement*, a CD and DVD package, pushes the boundaries of contemporary composition and makes it accessible and, yes, enjoyable. Pulling from classical, jazz, and electroacoustic experience, Daniel uses tools ranging from acoustic grand piano to Cycling '74 Max/MSP to create compelling, hybridized textures and soundscapes. Acoustic and electronic elements integrate beautifully, as do diatonicism and dissonance. Engaging, intelligent, and unpretentious, Koppelman's collection is a testament to how cool "serious" contemporary music can actually be.

Michael Gallant  
[facweb.furman.edu/~dkoppelman](mailto:facweb.furman.edu/~dkoppelman)

*If you aren't currently under contract with a record company, you could be featured as an Unsigned Artist in Keyboard. Send your music on CD with a letter detailing your tools and process to: Keyboard Unsigned Artist, 2800 Campus Drive, San Mateo, CA, 94403.*

## Spin Cycle

Here's what the KB staff is listening to.

Ken Hughes

### Boards of Canada

*The Campfire Headphase*

Janell Umemoto

### Goldfrapp

*Supernature*

Ernie Rideout

### Michael McDonald

*Through the Many Winters*

## Upcoming Releases

Hiroimi

*Spiral*  
 (Telarc)

Jimmy Raney

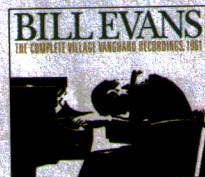
*Jimmy Raney featuring Bob Brookmeyer*  
 (Verve Reissues)

Slow Runner

*No Disassemble*  
 (Red Ink)

## BILL EVANS TRIO

*The Complete Village*  
 Vanguard Recordings, 1961



Hearing these tracks for the first time from my car stereo felt inappropriate the way drinking Cristal from a Styrofoam cup feels inappropriate. This box set is jazz piano gold and deserves both your undivided attention and the best sound system you can get your hands on. There are plenty of classics here — "My Romance" (check out our transcription on page 54 and lessons on page 50), "Milestones," and "Solar," to name a few — and supported by Scott LaFaro on bass and Paul Motian on drums, Bill stretches out beautifully over every one of them. As an extra treat, you can hear multiple interpretations of the same song as played in different sets; for example, a previously unreleased take of "Gloria's Step" is included here. The *Vanguard Recordings* is as close as many of us will get to hearing this keyboard legend enchant a downtown club, and it's an experience not to be missed. Michael Gallant (Fantasy Jazz, [www.fantasyjazz.com](http://www.fantasyjazz.com))

## DIANA KRALL FEATURING THE CLAYTON/HAMILTON JAZZ ORCHESTRA

### Christmas Songs



From "Jingle Bells" to "Winter Wonderland," Diana sings and swings through 12 holiday classics on this new disc. Her piano work tends toward the spare side for most of the tunes, punctuating more than dominating, though a delicate "White Christmas" features an assured, chord-melody piano lead. The Clayton/Hamilton Jazz Orchestra gives a tight performance throughout, making the disc's strong arrangements sound easy and providing excellent accompaniment for Diana's alto vocals. Sometimes energetic, sometimes romantic, *Christmas Songs* will surely find a home in stockings everywhere. Michael Gallant (Verve, [www.vervemusicgroup.com](http://www.vervemusicgroup.com))

## THE DALE OCKERMAN PROJECT

### A Peace of My Mind



The multi-talented Ockerman finally steps out from his keyboard chair with the Doobie Brothers to deliver his first solo CD. He penned most of the tunes, which cover an eclectic mix of rock, gospel, soul, and New Orleans funk, and plays wicked keys — tons of kick-ass B-3 plus Rhodes, synths, and piano — and guitar. Among those joining him in this celebration of song are bassist Tiran Porter and saxman/vocalist Cornelius Bumpus (both of the Doobie Brothers), Joseph "Zigaboo" Modeliste (the Meters), brassman Mic Gillette (Tower of Power), Jerry Miller (Moby Grape), and a variety of vocal artists. This *Peace* was two years in the making and well worth the wait. Mark Vail (Dale Ockerman Music, [www.daleockerman.com](http://www.daleockerman.com))

## HOWARD JONES

### Revolution Of The Heart



At first listen, Jones may no longer seem the innovator he was 20 years ago. Club beats seem to predominate, as do the conventions of modern dance music. But keep the disc on repeat for a while and you start to hear classic Jonesy touches and much — often startling — invention within the strict boundaries of the dance genre. His capacity for beautiful melodies that stay with you is larger than ever. The relentlessly chirpy, lyrical optimism for which many derided his early releases has given way to a realist's outlook that nonetheless sees hope in the dark. Standout tracks: "Just Look At You Now," "I've Said Too Much," "Black & White," and "For You, See Me." Ken Hughes (Koch Records, [www.kochentertainment.com](http://www.kochentertainment.com))

## DVD

### Dickey Betts & Great Southern: Back Where It All Begins



In 2004, the first-ever DVD from founding Allman Brothers Band guitarist Dickey Betts was recorded live at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and features Betts and his band rocking through classic Allman Brothers songs in front of a packed house. Keyboardist Michael Kach is exceptional throughout, handling B-3 and keys on all the Gregg Allman and Chuck Leavell parts with solid grooves and seasoned chops. The camera angles on Kach are so good that you can pick up on his licks and runs, giving you a great primer in southern rock keyboard stylings. A good DVD made even better by Kach's talented keyboard playing. Robble Gennet (Eagle Vision, [www.dickeybetts.com](http://www.dickeybetts.com))



Photo by Vervy Oakland