

From: Kevin Field <k.field@auckland.ac.nz>
Date: 18 October 2011 6:10:31 PM NZDT
To: Wayne Senior <wayne.senior@xtra.co.nz>
Subject: RE: Filed of Vision CD

Hi Wayne,

Recommendation

Wayne Senior is the string arranger and conductor for my forthcoming album and contributed arrangements to four compositions. These works spanned the stylistic spectrum from jazz to funk and "drum & bass", and required someone with both experience and versatility as well as an openness to different musical ideas and genres. I chose Wayne because he possesses these attributes in abundance.

Working with Wayne was a rewarding experience as he knows how to get the best out of a small string section. His arranging skills incorporate the conventional to the experimental and he has an intuitive understanding of how to use the strings to complement and support the other instruments. As part of the preparations for the album I was able to sit down and discuss the string arrangements with Wayne in detail. He gained my immediate trust as someone who would be true to the harmony and spirit of each composition and who could conceive of strings in both an accompanying and a featured role.

One of the innovations on this album is the strings taking the role of an "improvisor" in the traditional jazz sense (though of course all the notes were written down!). This required considerable skill to create a spontaneity and freshness in the string writing as if the string players were actually improvising. Wayne's understanding of both the classical and jazz perspectives was invaluable in pulling this off.

Cheers

Kevin