

JAZZ

## Elders rule year's big-band limelight

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The Denver Post

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As the year evaporates, I came to two conclusions when putting together my 2009 best-of list. First, big-band scenarios are surprisingly fertile ground; and second, the most enthralling jazz is being created by artists well beyond the age of 60. That doesn't necessarily mean that the art form is growing old; but it does tell us that we have a lot to learn from our creative-minded elders.

**1. Wadada Leo Smith, "Spiritual Dimensions" (Cuneiform):** Some of the densest avant-funk ever recorded is on the second disc, accentuated by Smith's trumpet, which gets as harsh as Miles Davis at his most apocalyptic. The first disc is more in the vein of (by now) "conventional" outside jazz — but it's similarly inspired. There was no better display of where the music has been and where it can go.

## As escolhas de Jazz de 2009 – Público – Nuno Catarino, Paulo Barbosa, Rodrigo Amado

December 30, 2009 · Leave a Comment



1. Wadada Leo Smith / Jack DeJohnnetete

America

Tzadik, dist. Flur

Wadada Leo Smith

Spiritual Dimensions

Cuneiform

Músico que nunca atingiu o reconhecimento devido por se ter dedicado à criação pura e inadulterada, revela absoluta paixão pelo silêncio como matéria primordial da música. Em "America", o característico som de pratos de DeJohnnetete e o sopro penetrante, algo austero, de Leo Smith, dá-nos a sensação de que estamos perante algo especial, um dueto que conjura pensamentos e emoções muito para além da simples música. Em "Spiritual Dimensions", rodeado de músicos de excepção – no primeiro CD com o Golden Quintet, e no segundo com o noneto Organic – o trompetista revela uma visão única para o jazz do século XXI. R.A.