

# Jamie Baum

Flutist / Composer  
Reviews



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## Here's what critics are saying about Jamie Baum Septet & *Solace*

Voted one of the "Best CD's of 2008" by:

JazzTimes  
Jazz Improv Magazine  
Hartford Courant  
Village Voice  
AllAboutJazz.com  
AllAboutJazz.com (Italy)  
jazz.com  
wnti.fm  
thejazznetwork.ning.com/radioio.com  
Jazz Station (Brazil)  
kcck.org (FM Radio, IA)  
kuaf.fm (npr, AR)  
ksfr.fm (npr, Santa Fe)

"...on a cold night in January this reviewer decided to experience the Jamie Baum Septet at Joe's Pub in the east village. The experience was nothing short of extraordinary. Each tune was gripping, and played to perfection by the ensemble. The best compliment that can be given to such compositional creativity is that all concept of the passage of time was lost... I had been transported...for what seemed like precious few moments, but it was enough to leave me breathless and wanting more."

---All About Jazz

"\*\*\*\* (four stars) Exemplaire...a remarkable disc..."

---Jazzman (France)

"The flutist Jamie Baum explores her own meticulous yet pliable compositions with (her septet), which she featured on an estimable recent album."

---New York Times

" Baum's rich and fresh voicings for her longtime septet, whether playing melodies or in counterpoint, are most responsible for the laudible success of all the pieces on this CD ...a major statement by flutist, composer and arranger Jamie Baum...endlessly imaginative... notably inspired throughout "

---**Jazz Times**

"When Jamie Baum releases a new album, many modern jazz aficionados take notice. Baum's musical journey offers the drama and intensity of a cinematic thriller or cliffhanger, which is sure to keep her audience at the edge of their seats."

---**All About Jazz**

"While the septet can obviously swing - it does so in grand fashion, especially while backing soloists throughout this CD...Baum's four-part "Ives Suite" (is a) 31-minute tour de force. Aggressive soloing from Baum, trumpeter Ralph Alessi, French horn player Vincent Chancey, saxophonist Douglas Yates and pianist George Colligan provides impressive highlights throughout these 10 lush tracks. But at the heart of the matter is Baum's impassioned, personally orchestrated ensemble sound."

---**Jazziz**

"Solace is a joy to listen to and demonstrates (Baum's) depth and diversity as a composer, arranger and instrumental soloist. Baum makes extraordinary use of space...(is) technically proficient with a mature understanding of harmony and melody, and a deep sensitivity about how to put it all together on paper and on-the-spot."

---**Jazz Improv NY**

"Adventurous flutist Jamie Baum works the angles and corners of the jazz mainstream... on Solace, (she) offers a generous program of her compositions, arrangements and spoken-word text; she also spreads the wealth around...a welcome take on that ongoing wrestling match between composition and improvisation."

---**DownBeat**

"Baum writes serious and intricate pieces that have moments of breath-taking beauty and intense rhythmic fire. "Solace" is definitely one of the finest releases of this (or any) year. Baum played flute and alto flute and played them extremely well. She can fly with the best of them but it's her ensemble work and downright brilliant writing that makes her music special."

---**Hartford Courant**

"Baum is one of the most accomplished jazz flutists of her generation. What sets her apart is the beauty of her tone combined with what I can only call a weightiness-like a baseball pitcher who throws a "heavy" fastball that makes it almost unhittable. Think gravitas, not overbearing."

---**Audiophile Audition**

“The flutist's new *Solace* reminds just how texturally rich her music has always been—it's one of the reasons that she's known for her writing as much as she is her soloing. As her bands glides (and prances at several moments,) through the charts, pithy escapades are given green light after green light.”

---**Village Voice**

“For some years now Jamie Baum and her septet have been offering some of the most compelling evidence to be found that the structural sophistication of chamber music is by no means incompatible with spontaneity, spirit and swing. Her latest effort, *Solace*, is an excellent place to start: Her long-running ensemble negotiates intricate charts with exuberance and ease.”

---**TimeOut, NYC**

“I was excited to see that local flutist and composer, Jamie Baum, had a new disc since her last one on OmniTone was so incredible. For this disc, Jamie has put together another stellar band with many of downtown's finest. Jamie's writing is also superb...there is a wealth of well-written material here that I find most fascinating as it works its way through different sections, making some surprising twists and turns. Although Jamie's inspired flute playing is consistently strong throughout, it is her engaging writing that truly stands out for the entire 74-minute journey.”

---**Downtown Music Gallery, NYC**

“In advance of her two upcoming Ottawa appearances, I've been spinning her new CD, *Solace*, and enjoying it a lot. Baum orchestrates her music smartly to extract beautiful blends from the ensemble. Moreover, she shows off her chamber music sympathy with the disc's centrepiece, a four-part suite dedicated to Charles Ives. But make no mistake. Baum's creating jazz -- forward-thinking stuff -- with bracing solos in particular from pianist George Colligan, trumpeter Alessi and herself.”

---**Ottawa Citizen**

“Flutist **Jamie Baum** is a master of chamber jazz textures, deftly exploring complex harmonic designs on her regular and alto flutes and employing subtle voicings in the works that she's composed for her New York septet. She's also an improviser of note, matching wits on her four CDs with such distinguished colleagues as Dave Douglas, Randy Brecker, Kenny Werner.”

---**Toronto Life**

“Baum's composition rides the breeze with the grace of a falling leaf...suspended for a time in a dance of immeasurable serenity and beauty. The twists taken by this complex melody line are both beautiful and poignant...Baum has clearly assembled cooperative, likeminded musicians to help showcase her formidable compositional skills.”

---**jazz.com**