

## Vijay Iyer Trio – Quote Sheet

### Compassion:

*"It's as if this band wants to both seduce you and discomfit you, stripping you of everything but the ability to think and see for yourself"* - **NY Times**

*It's a sound that isn't trying to impress you so much as involve you...a highlight on the acclaimed pianist's path in and out of jazz."* - **Washington Post**

*"[Compassion] revels in dynamics that are calibrated with great care and, at times, achieve startling force"* - **WSJ**

*"The jazz trio's follow-up to 2021's Uneasy is irresistibly listenable, an immersive 66 minutes that exhales a particular aesthetic history even as it pulls on the pain and anxiety of our present."* - **Pitchfork**

*"Few pianists vary a theme better than Vijay Iyer, whose new album Compassion, with bassist Linda May Han Oh and drummer Tyshawn Sorey, flows with the smooth, pathfinding quality of shallow water in a rocky stream."* - **Pitchfork**

*"Having toured together since releasing Uneasy, the trio's chemistry is even stronger on Compassion, and they continue to convey so much through these instrumentals. Vijay's piano playing in particular is dripping with emotion."* - **Brooklyn Vegan**

*"With stellar compositions, performances, and energy, Iyer's new album Compassion contains some of his most immediately enjoyable music without sacrificing any of his usual complexity...Iyer places his full vision under the concept of 'compassion', but he leads to that point only by finding joy, excitement, and gratitude for the inspirations that have helped him see what he has to offer."* - **Pop Matters**

*"Everything Vijay Iyer does is grounded on a foundation of considered thought and intention...Iyer and company certainly aren't lacking in inspiration. And this album, on which there's not a weak moment to be found, will doubtlessly prove inspiring to others."* - **Jazziz**

*"This exquisite album quietly ups the ante on 21st-century modern jazz piano trio excursions."* - **DownBeat**

*"the visionary musician [Iyer] leads an ensemble that formulates an exquisite redefinition of jazz's well-established instrumental concept of the piano trio."* - **All About Jazz**

*"Each musician moves unimpeded, liberated by the others' motion., so much so that the sense of mutual inspiration permeating this roughly hour duration aligns with empathetic overtones within the record's title."* - **All About Jazz**

*"the trio shines"* - **Treblezine**

*"[the Trio] bring a fresh, intensely interactive, seemingly time-elasticizing approach to the jazz piano trio that is at once bracingly kinetic, intimate, and lyrical."* - **All Music**

*"[The title track] is a revelatory preview of the full album—and may well be the most peaceful five minutes of your day"* - **Aquarium Drunkard**

*"Compassion reveals one of today's most fully rounded piano trios on their second foray, transportive music of the highest caliber...[Compassion] hits with power, sensitivity and intensity "* - **Glide**

*"American pianist Vijay Iyer continues to come into his own after nearly 30 years in the business...Easily one of the most notable contemporary pianists working today, (think Joey Alexander, Kenny Barron and Benny Green), [Iyer] continues to forge a distinct style and expression of sound...The musicians were astounding on their trio debut together, with a seemingly effortless energy and drive. Their new release, Compassion, rekindles that controlled heat."* – **Spectrum Culture**

*As a trio, they chug along— alert, focused, devoted—in cherished moments together to weave tapestries of love and devotion. They share fiery chemistry and tender empathy; mutual inspiration charges the improvised workings of Iyer's tidy bluesy structures.* – **NYC Jazz Record**

*For the last twenty years, Vijay Iyer has stood as one of the most renowned jazz pianists, composers, bandleaders and sidemen, freshening up an old genre by pushing out the frontiers of composition and improvisation. For the last ten of those years, he's done that from the distinguished perch of ECM Records, expanding his legacy further by constantly introducing new ideas... This is about an elite jazz trio as one can assemble today..."* – **Something Else**

**Uneasy:**

*"Iyer could be the poster boy for twenty-first-century jazz...a triumph of small-group interchange and fertile invention"* - The New Yorker

"Could be the definitive political work of this year...It evokes the highest ideals of creative music: not just taking turns but using one's own to spur another's" - Jazz Times

"Sorey, Oh, and Iyer negotiate complex parameters of rhythm and harmony with the soaring precision of raptors on the wing" - Pitchfork, Best New Music

"Extraordinary...reaffirming his status as one of the most creative figures in improvised music" -Boston Globe

"Mr. Iyer is a singular thinker about music" - Wall St. Journal

"...a set of modern piano jazz that covers a remarkable range and features three brilliant musical imaginations that play well together...it is dazzling" - Popmatters May 2021

'This is heartfelt, masterful jazz trio.' Der Spiegel – Germany

"One of the great musicians of his generation... Der Spiegel - Germany

'As virtuoso as profound, Vijay Iyer's piano fascinated a little bit more every new release" Jazz News – France