

## Group: Northwest + 1

### Album Title: Minor Suggestions

#### Personnel

Damani (duh-mah-nee) Phillips – Alto Sax

Kevin Woods – Trumpet

Danny McCollim – Piano

John Hamar (hay-mur)– Bass

Julian MacDonough - drums

#### Tracks

	Track Name	Track Time	Composer	Publishing credit
1.	<b>Minor Suggestions</b>	5:43	Kevin Woods	SpoM Music (BMI)
2.	Clarity	6:26	Jon Hamar	Jon Hamar
3.	Flotsam and Jetsam	8:13	Kevin Woods	SpoM Music (BMI)
4.	Sunset's Last Embrace	8:19	Damani Phillips	Damani Phillips Music
5.	Lisa	6:22	Victor Feldman/Zito	Good Vibes Music
6.	Curly	6:42	Jon Hamar	Jon Hamar
7.	Jump Off Joe	7:47	Jon Hamar	Jon Hamar
8.	Blues for Mingus	10:52	<b>Danny McCollim</b>	
9.	Big Bird	5:37	Kevin Woods	SpoM Music (BMI)

#### Album Description

It's funny how 5 strangers can be brought together to make music, and unexpectedly find a musical chemistry worth its weight in gold. Our journey together began as a routine guest artist appearance at Spokane Falls Community College in June of 2013, where trumpeter Kevin Woods assembled this group as part of his guest artist series. Along with his SFCC colleague Danny McCollum, Woods assembled an all-star rhythm section of Washington's finest in inviting Jon Hamar and Julian MacDonough to fill out the guest artist group. Saxophonist Damani Phillips was invited to round out the group's horn section. Each of these musicians is active in performance and education, so guest artist invitations of this nature are a fairly common thing. What was not so common, however, was the natural musical chemistry that the group felt almost immediately; producing a concert of significant gravity for both musicians and listeners alike. In recognition of the fact that this kind of natural chemistry is a fairly rare thing between players who have never previously shared the bandstand together before, the group immediately made plans to record an album in the very near future. The album in your hands is the culmination of that effort.

This album is a collection of original compositions penned by the members of the group, with a couple of covers of infrequently performed jazz compositions sprinkled in for good measure. Every member brings something unique both musically and compositionally, and the end result is a collection of works that covers an unusually wide range of musical perspectives. Be it straight-ahead bebop, ECM-like broken time or greasy funk - this album offers a variety of musical perspectives that emanate directly from the musical upbringing of each group member. The result is a uniquely varied body of work that reflects the group's collective musical spirit while offering something for every kind of jazz listener. We sincerely hope that you enjoy our work, and if you do, please tell a friend (or 10)! Thank you for supporting out music, and more importantly, ENJOY!

### **Band Member Bios**

**Dr. Damani Phillips** is a saxophonist from Pontiac, MI, where he began playing at the age of 10. He currently serves as Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies and African-American Studies at the University of Iowa, where he teaches applied jazz saxophone, directs jazz combos and teaches courses in African-American music, jazz history, jazz theory and improvisation. He has earned Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from DePaul University (Chicago) and The University of Kentucky in classical saxophone; and a second Master of Music degree in Jazz Studies from Wayne State University (Detroit). Phillips completed the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Jazz Studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder; becoming one of the first African-Americans in the country to do so.

An active performer, pedagogue and composer, Phillips has taught and performed throughout the United States, England and Japan. He has previously served on the adjunct faculty of Oakland University (Rochester, MI) and Macomb Community College (Macomb, MI), and is actively sought as a guest artist, clinician and adjudicator. As a performer, Phillips has performed with artists/groups such as Lewis Nash, Christian McBride, Terrence Blanchard, Wycliffe Gordon, Dianne Reeves, Marcus Belgrave, Terrell Stafford, Maceo Parker, Pat Bianchi, Ira Sullivan, The Temptations, Red Holloway, Greg Gisbert, the Lexington (KY) Philharmonic, the Pontiac-Oakland Symphony, the touring Dave Matthews cover band "Crush" and many others. As a recording artist, Phillips released his debut CD "Yaktown Nights" in 2004, and "The String Theory" in November of 2010 which features original compositions and arrangements that combine the traditional jazz rhythm section with a string quartet. His most recent quartet recording project "The Reckoning" (featuring New York standouts Pat Bianchi on Hammond Organ, Greg Gisbert on trumpet and Lewis Nash on drums) was released in December of 2013.

**Trumpeter/composer KEVIN WOODS** is quickly emerging as one of the most melodic and emotive voices in improvised music in the Northwest. His passion for both performance and education has made him in demand as a leader and a sideman as well as a composer, arranger and clinician. Woods received his B.A. in Music from Western Washington University and his M.M. in Jazz Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Kevin has performed with Cuban saxophonist and bandleader Paquito D'Rivera, trombonist Slide Hampton, tenor saxophonist Joe Lovano, trumpeters Randy Brecker, Brian Lynch, Claudio Roditi and many others. He has been a member of numerous award-winning and nationally touring musical groups and has performed at many national and international music festivals. Woods has been featured in both Downbeat and Jazziz magazines and in 2007 he participated in the Betty Carter Jazz Ahead residency at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. Kevin's debut album *Ballad of the West* received high praise and airplay on jazz radio stations throughout North America and Europe.

As an educator, Woods has taught at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Whatcom Community College, Western Washington University and Seakyung College in South Korea. He has given clinics and performances at numerous public schools and colleges throughout the US and has served as adjudicator and clinician for many jazz festivals. Currently, Kevin lives in Spokane, Washington where he is active as a performer, educator and composer/arranger and serves as trumpet and jazz instructor at Spokane Falls Community College. He leads the Kevin Woods Trio and co-leads the Malmo, Sweden based Woods/Axelsson Quartet. Kevin is a clinician/artist for the Conn-Selmer Company.

**DANNY McCOLLIM**, A graduate of the Berklee College of Music, Boston, Massachusetts. An accomplished pianist, composer and arranger, he has performed with the Spokane Symphony under Gunthar Schular, the Spokane Jazz Orchestra, the Violin Jazz summit under Gunthar Schular and such artists as saxophonists Michael Brecker, Richie Cole, Frank Foster, Steve Barranco, Bud Shank, Lew Tabakin and Ernie Watts; trumpeters Freddie Hubbard and Jack Sheldon; trombonist Conrad Herwig; guitarists Howard Roberts, Corey Christianson, Michael Powers, Pat Barclay, Joe Brasch, Michael Fredrick and Larry Coryell; drummers Dave Weckl, Steve Smith, Mark Ivester, Dru Heller, Rick Westrick, Dan Cox, and Michael Waldrop; Bassist; Clipper Anderson, Doug Folkins, Josh Simon, Brian McCann; the Mills Brothers, the Platters, the Drifters, The Cab Calloway Orchestra and numerous local groups in the Spokane and Boston areas. Danny is currently leader The Danny McCollim Trio. He is also on the faculty at SFCC teaching jazz studies and Music Technology. Currently Performing with Motown recording artist Peter Rivera, original lead singer/drummer with "Rare Earth"

**JON HAMAR** is a versatile artist who's ability to find a tasteful, unique voice in any musical situation has made him a staple in the Northwest music scene. Hamar's friendly nature, sense of humor and work ethic has kept him busy as a freelance bassist in multiple performance genres.

Jon was born in Kennewick, Washington. He began playing the string bass at age 11 and a year later began playing the electric bass as well. Jon's parents are musical and Jon grew up listening to his father play gospel, boogie woogie and classical music at the piano and his mother play the oboe and sing at church. His parents were a great musical influence to him at an early age.

Jon has two degrees to show for his years of study. Jon earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Classical Double Bass Performance from Eastern Washington University under the tutelage of Roma Vaysapir and Kelly Ferris. Jon graduated from the Eastman School of Music with a Master's degree in Jazz and

Contemporary Media, studying with Jeffrey Campbell, James Vandermark, Harold Danko, Clay Jenkins, Raymond Ricker and Fred Sturm.

Since moving to Seattle in 2001 Hamar has been active in the role of supporting bassist. Hamar performed for four years with jazz and blues great Ernestine Anderson and is currently a regular with Northwest notables such as Greta Matassa, Jim Knapp, Randy Halberstadt and Dawn Clement. Jon also performs regularly in an orchestral setting recording on movie soundtracks, and playing recitals and concerts around the Northwest.

As an educator Jon keeps busy teaching at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, Northwest University in Kirkland, Washington and Edmonds Community College in Edmonds, Washington as well as maintaining an active private studio. Jon currently has former students attending Berklee College of Music, The New School and the Manhattan School of Music. In 2012 Jon joined the faculty at the Centrum Jazz Workshop under the direction of Artistic Director John Clayton.

**JULIAN MACDONOUGH** is a Pacific Northwest drummer. Over the past ten years he has been a full time member of the Mike Allen Quartet/Trio (Vancouver BC), the genre-bending "funk" band Megatron (Bellingham Washington) the Monday Night Project, and alt-country singer songwriter Kasey Anderson (Portland Oregon).

In addition to those bands, Julian has been very active as a freelance musician. Primarily hired as a jazz drummer up and down the west coast, he has also spent a lot of time in recording studios with over 40 CDs under his belt. Some of his favorites are Mike Allen's 2003 award winning album "Dialectic," 2004 "Fearless," and 2006 "Love One Another." Kasey Anderson's "Nowhere Nights" Havilah Rand's 2009 "Bengalese Butterflies", Jenni Potts's "Take This and Go" and New York pianist Aaron Parks "First Romance." Julian also enjoys teaching a wide variety of students, ranging in age from 5 to 76. A former teacher at the Seattle Drum School, he loves the challenges and questions that are brought to him from his students.