

CADENCE

OCTOBER 1997

2) STEVE MILLION, THANKS A MILLION, ② PALMETTO 2026.

Seven A.M. / Page Six / Lagoa* / Waltz For Yadda / ToeKnee / My Explanation / Thanks A Million / March Of The Sycophants / Minions / Mis'ry Waltz / Situations In And Out Of Mind. 58:34.*

Randy Brecker, flgh, tpt; Chris Potter, ts, ss; Michael Moore, b; Ron Vincent, d; Million, p; Mark Walker, perc *; Mark Patterson, tbn *. 9/9,10/96, NYC.

More promising is (2), the sophomore effort of Steve Million. With Million's compositions full of Afro-Latin rhythms and a penchant for mellow, two horn melodies, this quintet recalls the heyday of Horace Silver. It is all the more intriguing when Million's playing sounds more like Horace Parlan, offering simple, moderate speed, short runs of notes that sound favorable in this context. Million's presence is very relaxed and full of composure, leaving most of the space for Potter and Brecker. The two hornmen work off each other skillfully, tackling the melodies with ease; with Potter respectfully, yet regretfully, taking fewer solos than the more experienced Brecker. While Potter displays a consistently strong, forceful tone throughout, it is Brecker who seems most invigorated by this session, responding with a lavish, Art Farmer-like flugelhorn solo on "Page Six" or on the rich "Waltz For Yadda." For once, Brecker might actually have risen to the heft of his much hyped reputation.