

PATRIOT LEDGER

QUINCY, MA

WEDNESDAY 87,838

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By Erik Sherman
For The Patriot Ledger

Jazz CDs

THANKS A MILLION; Steve Million (Palmetto Jazz)

This is thoughtful and patient second album from a pianist and composer who has been influenced by Thelonious Monk. He doesn't copy Monk, but he uses offbeat rhythms and harmonics to express his concepts. For example, the track titled "Seven A.M." uses 7/4 time to pair odd-ball emphases and self-acknowledged Afro-Latin rhythms for some marvelous listening.

"My Explanation" uses an unusual tune structure to break up the listener's view of the usual. Million was working with a rhythm section of Michael Moore on bass, Ron Vincent on drums. There are various guest performances on several tracks.