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By James Hale

Guitarist Pete McCann exhibits an unusually wide range of tonal variations, stretching from full-bodied, ringing notes to electronically enhanced grunge. On the title track, he swings from one extreme to the other, voicing his vaguely Middle Eastern theme softly through several choruses, then launching into a raucous solo that pushes his amplifier into overdrive.

Influenced by Pat Metheny and John Scofield, McCann is one of a number of emerging guitarists on New York City's Downtown scene.

A native of Wisconsin, McCann is now a regular in drummer Bobby Previte's 'The Horse' and several other bands.

In addition to his broad range on his instrument, McCann is also unusual in the space he gives to bandmates Peter Epstein, Bruce Huron, and Matt Wilson. In fact, it's drum phenom Wilson who dominates Parable, with his quirky behind-the-beat timing and deep well of invention.

With both echoes of Ornette Coleman and rocker Steve Vai, McCann is one of the new breed of musicians who refuse to recognize the arbitrary boundaries between genres, and Parable gives him the opportunity to range freely across several stylistic fields.