

# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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## CYCLES SUITE CD RELEASED BY JENTSCH GROUP LARGE

*"The interesting thing is that he's using avant-garde techniques, but in a traditional framework..."*

— Will Friedwald (NY Sun)

*"In its scope and detail and eternally recurring inner logic, Cycles Suite may be the Finnegans Wake of big-band jazz. ...a moving and elegiac journey through complex emotional terrain."*

— Richard Gehr (from the liner notes)

Commissioned by The New York State Council on the Arts and premiered in NYC at The Kitchen, composer-guitarist Chris Jentsch's ***Cycles Suite featuring Mike Kaupa*** is a meditation on one's own life cycle and the important connections with the cycles of others.

Jentsch's large group music generally invokes contemporary improvisation with an eclectic mix of influences ranging from jazz to rock, world to classical, always striving for a careful balance between lyricism and dissonance, and a deliberate combination of complexity and simplicity. The 75-minute *Cycles Suite* is the concluding work of a trilogy of suites set in motion in 1999 with *Miami Suite*, and continued in 2007 with *Brooklyn Suite*.

Jentsch has already earned acclaim for his previous suites. DownBeat gave *Brooklyn Suite* 3.5 stars saying: "Jentsch created a contrasted and kaleidoscopic patchwork with marvelous melodies, splendid voicings and a skillful use of dynamics." Jazz Improv Magazine comments on the album's "...soaring guitar solo work," and Mark F. Turner of AllAboutJazz said Jentsch is "...a composer who can convey his ideas on a grand scale, swings with the grace of Duke Ellington and rocks with the nuance of Frank Zappa." Forrest Dylan Bryant of JazzTimes said, "With intimate solo guitar passages, swelling horn themes and sumptuous atmospheres, (*Brooklyn Suite*) is at once grandly orchestral and strikingly personal. ...the entire band seems to radiate from Jentsch's pensive guitar pulse, blending jazz, classical and rock ideas into a multidimensional reflection of everyday life."

Internationally known trumpeter **Mike Kaupa** has consistently expressed a personal affinity for Jentsch's compositions and they have played together in various contexts since 1991. *Cycles Suite* was designed around Mike's unique voice.

The *Cycles Suite* CD is available **now** at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, CDUniverse, FleurdeSon.com, and ChrisJentsch.com.

### **2009 Jentsch Group Large Events**

**March 13** at Tea Lounge, Brooklyn, NY — CD Release Event for *Cycles Suite featuring Mike Kaupa*, Chris Jentsch's NYSCA commissioned suite for Jentsch Group Large.

*Cycles Suite featuring Mike Kaupa* was commissioned by the Individual Artists Program of the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

This project has been made possible in part through the sponsorship of The Field, and was partially developed during a residency at the Ucross Foundation in Wyoming.

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**www.ChrisJentsch.com**