



THE NEW YORK CITY JAZZ RECORD

The Passion According to G.H.

Ivo Perelman & Sirius Quartet (Leo 2012)

Reviewed by John Sharpe | June 2012

[Ivo] Perelman first recorded with a string quartet to wax *The Alexander Suite* (Leo, 1998), but his revisitation of the format with the Sirius Quartet on *The Passion According to G.H.* is even better.

From the opening confluence of hushed cello notes and plaintive tenor chant, this is an amalgam that keeps the listener on the edge of their seat.

It helps that the string players prove themselves as impressive improvisers, conversant with a wide range of extended techniques and able to respond quickly to the saxophonist as he slides between tones, their singing lines intertwining and soaring.

Less forced to the extremes, Perelman works in a broad impasto, laying smears of tonal color over and through the accompanying ensemble, moving from staccato cadences to folkish melodies and squealing eruptions, paced every step of the way by

