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REVIEW: Tunto's "Lempi"

Published November 3rd, 2009 at 12:05 am in [Music Reviews](#) with no comments

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Tunto may call themselves "weird jazz", but it's just jazz music with a chemical imbalance. They are a three piece band who enjoy the anchor of jazz but want to take metaphorical pictures of it from any and all angles to see what develops. *Lempi* (Aani) is a continuation of the experimentation they did on *Kevyt*, where they blended their musicianship with electronic-based production in some of the tracks. What this does is create a very dense and laid back backdrop for what they play over it, where they may incorporate the 'ukulele, flutes, mandolins, or cello and percussion from guests who sit in with the band. "Eyelash Music" sounds like trip-hop as it enters a marketplace where their merchandise is unknown. "Yearning Music" could be an outtake from the "Heart Beat, Pig Meat" recording sessions, and what I like about this track is while you have a repetitive drum beat going through the entire song, the addition of horns and other percussive sounds (both real and electronic) help to give the song a bit more color, and then the scenery changes about a third-way in when you realize it's going to turn into a minimalistic dance track. It reminds me of what **808 State** tried to do with "Pacific", where you have sounds in the song moving at three different speeds but all moving at the right tempo.

The first time you hear a human voice is the yodeling in "Caressing Music", although the credits state they are samples. You interpret it as someone (or something) that guides the band along from one point to the next, and when it reaches its destination, one is not prepared for what will happen on the next seven tracks. Tunto are a group where you do not expect anything but quality music, and you put faith in them to deliver in the exploratory fashion that they have become known for. Trust in their sound means you will be rewarded immensely.



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