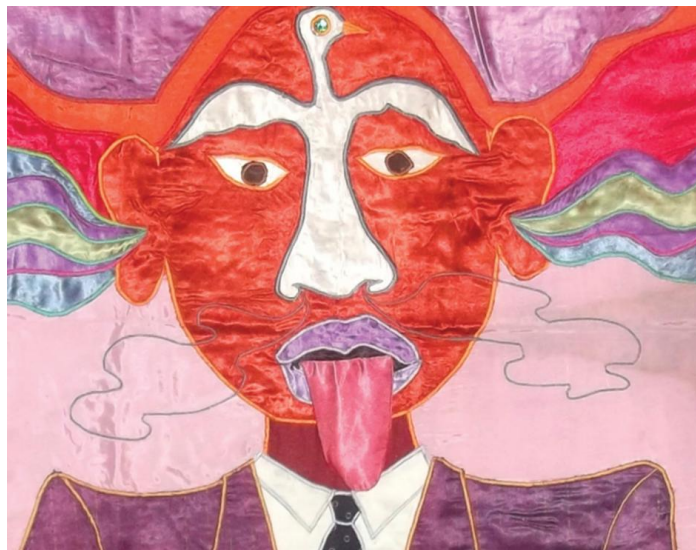


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## Don Cherry: The Summer House Sessions

Revelatory '68 sessions from free jazz polymath-philosopher

By John Daly



Crop of cover image for *Organic Music Societies*

*The Summer House Sessions* uncovers previously unreleased recordings undertaken soon after Don Cherry relocated to Sweden with partner Moki. Recorded in a Kummelnäs summer house, the music here, with Cherry accompanied by musicians from Sweden, France and Turkey, marks a notable stylistic shift from the Blue Note albums that helped make his name. These 1968 sessions are looser, aesthetically pan-global, embracing a nascent spirituality alongside a cartwheeling energy. Even when the playing ascends into more furiously integrated free jazz, Cherry always brings the group back to melody heads and simple, affecting riffs and phrases, which ground everything. Blank Forms are also releasing a wild 1972 set with Naná Vasconcelos, where Cherry wrings melancholy and joy from piano and harmonium while chanting the house down; they've also published a 500-page book, *Organic Music Societies*, reflecting on this era of Cherry's music - it's stunning. (9/10).