

■ **Listening to Unit Five (Music Center – 112)**

makes you remember those days when you got the latest Blue Note album because you knew that you were going to hear the kind of lines that would make you snap your fingers and enjoy some good blowing that was free of pretension and gimmicks. Well this album happens to have been recorded in May 2006 in Italy by a band led by bassist

MASSIMILIANO ROLFF. Rolff, along with Steffano Riggi on tenor sax, Giampiero Lo Bello on trumpet and flugelhorn, Massimo Currò on guitar and Maurizio Borgia on drums, give vibrant life to nine of his compositions. He knows how to write music that makes you want to hear more. It pleases me that an album that sounds so wonderfully retro is entirely a production of European musicians, for so much of what arrives here from over there is in the avant garde camp, and not particularly appealing to my ears. If Rolff and his band mates ever make it to these shores for some gigs, I hope that I hear about it, and can find a way to catch them.

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