

## **Critical Acclaim for Denny Zeitlin's "Columbia Years" Recordings and Performances**

Downbeat: "The Zeitlin trio...a stunning display of instrumental virtuosity, emotional depth, and musicality...Zeitlin's piano is impeccable...introspective, filled with joy, bitingly mocking, always intelligent and emotional."

New York Times, John S. Wilson: "...among the few contemporary jazz pianists who have the imagination, discipline, and technique to rise above the competent but routine level that most of them appear willing to settle for."

San Francisco Chronicle, Ralph J. Gleason: "...he is a highly talented pianist with great imagination and technique..."

Leonard Feather, Editor of Encyclopedia of Jazz and syndicated newspaper columnist: "(at the Monterey Jazz Festival) Denny Zeitlin topped his Newport triumph...pianist of the year...the most versatile young pianist to come to prominence in the early 1960's."

Newsweek: "What marks all of Zeitlin's work and playing...is a sense of journey, but one complete with arrival as well as departure."

Chicago Daily News: "...the most exciting pianist to be heard in years."

High Fidelity: "...he can rip the keyboard apart or coax the most delicate nuances from it with a virtuoso's assurance. And it is done not as showmanship, but as a means to a distinctly creative end."

Billboard: "his dynamic big and exciting piano sound...his approach to the songs carries his own personal stamp."

San Francisco Examiner, Phillip Elwood: "...I was again astounded by the breadth and depth of his imagination and expressiveness...Zeitlin is creating some of the most stimulating jazz of our time."

Hi-Fi Stereo Review, Joe Goldberg: "...I'm just as impressed as anybody...brilliant jazz...a major young pianist."

Nat Hentoff, Jazz critic and author: "...freshness of conception...crisp technical assurance and...highly personal fusion of lyricism and drive."

Holiday: "...each piece reflects ordered passion and an overall command of design that makes the combination of interlocking parts appear in retrospect to have been inevitable."

Chicago Tribune: "...brilliant young modern jazz pianist and composer."

Bill Evans: [Downbeat Blindfold Test, listening to Jeremy Steig's LP "Flute Fever," featuring Denny Zeitlin] "...the piano player is also great."

Thelonious Monk: [Downbeat Blindfold Test, listening to Denny Zeitlin's LP "Carnival"] "Hey play that again...(later.) Yeah! He sounds like a *piano player!* (hums theme) ...and he can play it; you

know what's happening with this one. Yeah, he was on a Bobby Timmons kick. *He* knows what's happening."

Cue: "The most inventive jazz pianist in at least two decades."