



Rocky Mountain News

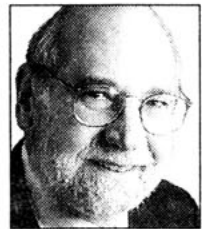
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Norman
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JAZZ NOTES

Feldman a force behind Synergy

Music is about the musicians, of course, but the enterprise has other players as well — the people who record, promote and present the sounds to the public.

As the director of INDIEgo Jazz Promotions and the general manager of the Synergy Music label, Manhattan-born Mitchell Feldman is part of that crowd. Both IN-

DIEgo promotions and the Synergy label are pieces of the Synergy Music Group pie, and Feldman joined the operation in January, following a number of interesting career stops, including:

- A four-year stint as managing director of CMP Records in Germany.

- A stop in New York, coordinating marketing and media for the outstanding programming generated by the famed 92nd Street Y, as well as writing for just about every major jazz label and doing media relations for artists on the order of Keith Jarrett.

- His first job in Colorado, where he worked in marketing at the Vilar Center af-

ter a trip to visit his sister, ended in a protracted stay.

- A return to New York, where he worked for the ECM label.

- A four-plus-year stay in Italy, where he acted as the European correspondent for *Down Beat* magazine, updated a tour book of Sardinia, and conducted research for his own planned book on the history of jazz in Europe.

Returning to the U.S., Feldman reconnected with Denver's Michael Fitts, and that produced his return to Colorado.

"Six years ago, when I left the state," Feldman jokes, "I deposited everything I had in a warehouse in Eagle. So the

move back wasn't a very difficult one."

In his job, the writer/publicist/executive has seen the promotion and distribution arms of Synergy land a deal with the cutting edge British label, Dune. That label has new releases by the Jazz Jamaica All Stars, led by bassist Gary Crosby and an engaging outing from saxophonist Soweto Kinch. On the Synergy Music side, you can get an idea of what's on the label with a sampler called *Syncopated Energy* that includes a track from the new *ShapeShifter* disc by reed man Paul McCandless and pianist Art Lande.

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