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Jazzology: Rich Halley, Alexander Hawkins, Coltrane as Reimagined by Dave Wilson and more

Oregon Sax Man Rich Halley Slithers Like a Snake...Meet the No-Chord Nonet Carn Davidson 9 and British Visionary Alexander Hawkins...Woodwind Whiz Benjamin Deschamps Makes his Masterpiece & The Dave Wilson Quartet Resurrects the Spirit of John Coltrane

[...]

Carn Davidson 9's *The History Of Us* (Three Pines Records) is the highly personal third album of this supremely creative no-chord nonet (seven horns with bass and drums) led by Tara Davidson (alto and soprano sax, clarinet, flute, piccolo) and William Carn (trombone and bass trombone). Now in its 12th year, the unique chamber jazz of these Canadians is highlighted by Carn's "Finding Home Suite," based on his family's trek from Hong Kong to Costa Rica to Canada. Utilizing elements of [traditional Chinese folkloric melodies](#) to Buddhist chants, Carn has created a swirling adventurous opus that is as captivating as it is hypnotic. Davidson's three-track "Suite 1985" is no less personal and has elements of [Scottish folk](#). The solos are sublime, the arrangements complex and stimulating.

Mike Greenblatt