



## Unexpected Direction Alex Madeline

**Stylistically between relaxed smooth jazz and varied contemporary**



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Some things take time - in the case of Alexandre "ALEX" MADELINE, who has been a professional musician for seventeen years, it took exactly that long until his first release. MADELINE studied at Berklee, performed at Carnegie Hall, Blue Note N.Y. and the Kennedy Center, played with his own formation TBK as an opener for MACEO PARKER and worked with jazz greats such as TERENCE BLANCHARD, JON CLAYTON and BOB JAMES. Together with ten musicians (including a vocalist and four string players), "Unexpected Direction" is a successful release that can be classified stylistically between relaxed smooth jazz ("Direction") and varied contemporary ("OR3", "Voyage"). This is not a "solo release", each of the band members gets their (solo) credit, and Sami Stevens' vocals are never too prominent despite their intensity. A beautiful album, although the "directions" are not too "unexpected" in my opinion, but that is in the eye or ear of the beholder... (Lyonhill Records)

\*\*\*\*\* (Optimal)