

The intention here is not to diminish Léandre's more free-ranging efforts. Duos lend themselves to tighter communication more than larger groups and some improvisers are more focused on the moment than they are over the scope of an hour. Bailey may have been the crown prince of the immediate and a newly uncovered session from 1982 finds the pair in a quartet with Lewis and saxophonist Evan Parker. The two sets the quartet played that night are preserved on *28 rue Dunois, Juillet 1982*, a full 78 minutes. It's an early recording for her—in fact, the only improvised record she had out at the time of this July 1982 gig in Paris was the solo recording *Contrebassiste*. There's a palpable energy to the performances. Fellow Englishmen Bailey and Parker had played together for more than a decade by that point, of course (this session occurring near the end of their association). Lewis, the only American in the group, had been a frequent presence in Europe at the time and Léandre was the new kid, at the time still more immersed in the contemporary classical world than she was in free improvisation (although the lines weren't as strict as history sometimes recalls). The set is nicely restrained, the players often breaking down into duos but with the wild card of others entering and leaving. It's a great find and one that serves to remind of the cross-fertilized grounds in which Léandre blossomed.