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Bio information: **GUTBUCKET**

Title: **FLOCK** (Cuneiform Rune 321)

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FILE UNDER: JAZZ

"Gutbucket continues to play with the frantic intensity of a punk band while exhibiting dazzling turn-on-dime chops." – JazzWeek

"Gutbucket takes a no-holds-barred approach to the jazz-rock paradigm" – The New York Times

What happens when you take four highly opinionated, strong-willed and creative composer/musicians and put them in a band together? You might have a volatile problem on your hands...or else you have **Gutbucket**.

The band was formed in 1999 by three of its current four members just out of college: **Ty Citerman** (electric guitar), **Eric Rockwin** (electric upright bass) and **Ken Thomson** (saxophone); **Adam D Gold** (drums) would arrive in 2007. Gutbucket quickly joined the youngest ranks of the blooming downtown NY **Knitting Factory** avant-jazz scene, holding court during its extended Friday night residency at the former lower Manhattan taste-making club. In early 2001, Gutbucket was rewarded with its first record, *Insomniacs Dream*, released on the now-defunct **Knitting Factory Works** label. The band began touring Europe that same year, developing an international fan base; and in 2002 Gutbucket debuted at many of Europe's highly regarded festivals.

Out of the gate, Gutbucket's music challenged New York's downtown norm– "a no-holds-barred approach to the jazz-rock paradigm" (*The New York Times*, 2010)– bringing a completely unique road-tested performance ("Keep all limbs, drinks and small children well clear" – *Time Out New York*) and a sound that tilted much further towards rock than many of its contemporaries. Gutbucket's brand of jazz continues to have its signature biting edge, cunning sense of humor and appreciation for the loud and theatrical. Improvisations are woven seamlessly and sometimes unexpectedly into the band's growing repertoire, and each composer in the group has developed an individual voice that simultaneously supports the collective. From the beginning Gutbucket has had no single bandleader; the result has been an expansive yet unified and recognizable group sound.

In 2003 and 2006, Gutbucket released a pair of albums on the **Bang on a Can** imprint **Cantaloupe Music**: *Dry Humping the American Dream* and *Sludge Test*. *Dry Humping the American Dream*, recorded live over a weekend in one room, explored the extremities of genre and sonic jumpcuts. On *Sludge Test*, however, Gutbucket focused on making a true rock record, with more immediate and heavy singularly-themed compositions; the band used the studio not just to document its sound, but to explore, orchestrate and experiment.

Drummer Adam D Gold joined Gutbucket just in time for another 10,000 mile cross-country tour and the band's **Carnegie Hall** premiere: saxophonist Ken Thomson's **American Composers Orchestra** commission for Gutbucket and orchestra, "Wait Your Turn." The piece was hailed by *The New York Times* as "an animated battle between the orchestra and...Gutbucket. [With] frenetic chords and explosive rhythms...the music offered a density worthy of the closing bars of a Led Zeppelin epic."

Frequent touring and two albums on **Cuneiform Records** have followed: 2009's *A Modest Proposal* and *Flock*. *Flock* cements Gutbucket's sound – still wearing the indie rock influences on its sleeve, but delving deeply into all four members' work as individual composers, assimilating contemporary classical, free jazz, mathy art rock, and more. Audibly, Gutbucket learned from its decade of record-making and has produced its most ambitious disc yet; hard-hitting yet nuanced, with a new sonic and compositional breadth. Gutbucket's imagination is in full bloom on *Flock*; the band sounds exactly like itself: immediate, ferocious, ambitious and inviting.

Over its 12 years, Gutbucket has written multiple film scores, collaborated with dance performers and string quartets – most notably, an ongoing octet project with New York's heralded string quartet **Ethel** – and has created large chamber ensemble shows to realize its detailed recordings live. Along the way, Gutbucket has brought its "impressive balance of passionate lyricism and pummeling angularity" (*Time Out New York*) to festivals, clubs and concert halls in 33 US states and 19 countries, including the **London Jazz Festival**, Seattle's **Earshot Jazz Festival**, **Jazz A Vienne**, **Warsaw Summer Jazz Days**, **Köln Triennale**, **San Sebastian Jazz Festival**, **Tel Aviv Jazz Festival**, **Saalfelden Jazz Festival**, NY's **Bang on a Can Marathon**, **Celebrate Brooklyn**, **NYC Winter Jazzfest**, **Belgrade Jazz Festival**, **Copenhagen Jazz Festival** and more.

Along with high-profile stage and studio activity, Gutbucket has developed a reputation for dynamic teaching engagements. The band has brought its inspiring four-person roundtable lessons on composition and improvisation to the **Eastman School of Music**, **CalArts**, **University of Missouri**, **University of Minnesota**, **Dartmouth College**, **Bang on a Can Summer Institute** and numerous clinics and workshops at festivals and schools in the US and across Europe.

For more information, please see:

www.gutweb.com

PROMOTIONAL PHOTOS

Digital [High-Resolution / Color] versions of these images and MORE are available for download on www.cuneiformrecords.com in the "Press" section.

