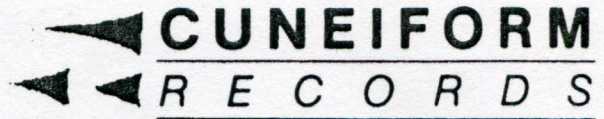




Bio information: **ELTON DEAN**
 Title: "**JUST US**" (Cuneiform Rune 103)
 UPC code: [0 45775 01032 8]



Cuneiform publicity dept: (301) 589-8894 / fax (301) 589-1819 / email: Cuneiform2@aol.com
<http://members.aol.com/Cuneiform2/cuneiform.html>



Soundbytes for the trade:

Well established UK free-jazz figure

Links with jazz/rock band
Soft Machine

Third release on Cuneiform by
Elton Dean

Restores to print a long sought-
after collector's item

Includes 25 minutes of bonus
material never before released

English jazz saxophone legend Elton Dean has been in the public eye for over 30 years. He started his career in 1965 with the legendary blues singer Long John Baldry in Baldry's band Bluesology, where Dean also performed with pianist Reginald Dwight. (Dwight later became Elton John, renaming himself after bandmates Elton [Dean] and [Long] John [Baldry].)

Elton Dean has played in numerous acclaimed groups over the years, including the Keith Tippett Group (1968-69), Soft Machine (1969-1972), Centipede (1971-72), Hopper/Dean/Tippett/Gallivan (1977-78), In Cahoots (1973-present) and many others. His discography as a band leader is extensive and as a band member, enormous. Cuneiform has previously released two CDs featuring Dean: "Silent Knowledge" by the Elton Dean Quintet, and "Bladik" by Dean, Dunmall, Levin, Rogers, Rudd & Tippett. When "Silent Knowledge" was released in 1996, The Wire called it "big, brawny, free-minded jazz, with pounds more substance than most of the music being made under the jazz tag...They may not look like angels, these keepers of stubborn and passionate sounds, but their music sings." Interest in Dean and other English free jazz players continues to rise, thanks in part to new releases on numerous labels by Dean and his contemporaries and reissues of their earlier works.

"Just Us" is a reissue of Dean's first solo album, originally released in 1971 and out of print for 25 years. The album's name comes from that of the side-band -- Just Us -- that Elton led during his tenure with Soft Machine and for the year following his departure. The band Just Us featured many of the best known names of "Brit-jazz" of the early 70's. Despite this distinction, the band is surprisingly under-represented on record: except for one track on a BBC live Soft Machine CD, the "Just Us" CD features the group's only available recordings. In addition to the original album [which includes two compositions by Dean that also appeared on Soft Machine's set-list], the Cuneiform reissue adds 25 minutes of previously unreleased material. The music is a cross between the free sound Dean would later focus on and the more composed music typical of his work with Soft Machine. The bonus tracks were recorded during Just Us' final year, and show the direction the band took after Dean left Soft Machine.