

Extra Pressure- 25th Anniversary Edition

Twenty-five years later, Extra Pressure feels less like a moment in time and more like a foundation. Originally released as Eric's fourth recording, and the first on his Distinction Records label, this project marked a decisive step forward in both artistic independence and band identity. It was not simply another album. It was a declaration of intent. Ten of the original eleven tracks are included in this anniversary edition. Eric's composition entitled "Plummet," which appeared on the initial release, will resurface in a future project.

The two recording days were charged with purpose. Eric's first three recordings for the Italian Soul Note label were documented after only a few rehearsals. With Extra Pressure, Person wanted the sound of a working band forged through hours on the bandstand, with communication becoming instinctive.

Two years after Eric's tenure with the Dave Holland Quartet, he was ready to lead a collective voice rather than a rotating cast. The group began to take shape in 1998 at Dharma, an East Village club. John and E.J were there from the start.

John's harmonic insight and constant listening grounded the ensemble. E.J Strickland, fresh from the New School in New York City, brought fire and sensitivity. Bassist Carlos Henderson completed the ensemble.

Eric first heard him in St. Louis, where his rhythmic authority stood out immediately. This was the first ensemble formally named Meta-Four. The band performed throughout New York City, upstate New York, at the Fresno Jazz Festival, the Outpost in Albuquerque, and the Montreal Jazz Festival. Each performance deepened the language they were developing. Listening now, you will hear ambition, risk, and a commitment to collective exploration.

The pressure was internal—the drive to define a personal voice and build something lasting. That pursuit continues.



ERIC PERSON

EXTRA PRESSURE

25th Anniversary Edition

Eric Person-bandleader, alto and soprano saxophones
John Esposito-piano
Carlos Henderson-bass
E.J Strickland-drums

01. Extra Pressure 4:15
02. Personal Blues 5:33
03. Fallout 6:08
04. The Pull 6:26
05. There will be better Days 4:44
06. Special Someone 5:34
07. Perfection 7:18
08. Song of September 6:47
09. Constellation-Pictures of Orion 8:25
10. This Devotion 9:20