records



Ground breaker

Jan Garbarek Group Wayfarer (ECM)

For Wayfarer, Jan Garbarek's latest offering, three of the most individual and distinct sounds in jazz today have been reunitied. The sounds of the sombre saxophones of Garbarek, the eeriness of Bill Frisell's electric guitar, and Eberhard Weber's electrified upright bass give a strong flavor to any of the many settings these musicians find themselves in. Together with drummer Michael DiPasqua, the Garbarek Group are quite a treat.

Of all the groupings that Garbarek has been involved with in the past, this one is the most versatile and listenable. What's more, after a relatively stagnant period a few years ago, Garbarek seems to be willing to explore some new things. The opening composition, "Gesture," for instance, is a delicate, almost oriental piece with DiPasqua's percussion work figuring promi-

The tranquility is quickly dispensed with on the title track, one of the most powerful and intense Garbarek compositions yet committed to vinyl. Several of the other compositions are not as noteworthy, but the increased range displayed by both Garbarek and Frisell is impressive, if not surprising.

Wayfarer succeeds in breaking some new ground for Garbarek and his group, while maintaining the standards set with last year's Paths.

-STEVEN HACKER

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Professor Michael Weinstein is the author of more than eight books including: The Wilderness and the City: American Classical Philosophy as a Moral Quest, and The Polarity of Mexican Thought.

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- 5. Name three Toronto Sun columnists 6. Who won the Stanley Cup final in 1967? (Trick question.)

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