

# **Touching Extremes.**

**review by Massimo Ricci, June 2007, Italy**

<http://spazioinwind.libero.it/extremes/touchinghome.htm>

**GANELIN TRIO PRIORITY - Live at the  
Lithuanian National Philharmony Vilnius 2005**

**Nemu <http://www.nemu-records.com/>**

**I vividly remember the original Ganelin Trio being constantly quoted - together with the late Sergey Kuryokhin - as the torch bearers for free music in the Soviet Union, real symbols of a movement that would explicate through a sound that was as free of predictability and constrictions as the wildest dreams of people living under a regime. After the dissolution of U.S.S.R. Vyacheslav Ganelin went to Israel and practically disappeared; yet, surprisingly, the Ganelin Trio is back in action, with a slightly modified name but also new maturity and consciousness to fuel their most recent music, which in this magnificent DVD was captured in its deepest essence. The leader's new companions respond to the names of Petras Vysniauskas (alto & soprano sax) and Klaus Kugel (drums and percussion). Two long tracks range from melancholic themes, hinted by Ganelin on his Korg synthesizer, almost evoking ECM-like atmospheres full of chiaroscuro intersections, to furious improvisational surges in which the musicians play like possessed by an inner strength multiplying their efforts until the sunlight seems to enter the hall and shine brighter on players and receivers alike. The final encore is instead a beautifully mourning tune, "Homage to friends", magnified by additional impromptu ramifications that confirm the reciprocal responsiveness of the involved artists, not to mention the mental and physical participation that they show throughout the concert. It's a must-see documentary of a great performance, and a virtual applause should also go to the incredibly silent, attentive audience of Vilnius whose age span is noteworthy - young kids to elderly indeed; but this didn't prevent them to respond to the Trio's heartfelt communication with all the respect that serious music should always receive.**