

Arnold Dreyblatt

Jim O'Rourke, 2014 (Liner Notes for "Appalachian Excitation")

Arnold Dreyblatt once wrote on one of his earliest records that his music was somewhat akin to a juggler, he does stuff down there to make stuff happen up there. This still is the best description i have ever heard of not only Mr. Dreyblatt's music, but for a whole range of phenomenon that i have seen through life. It isn't just confined to music, or even to the subset of music that his music shares with other like-minded geniuses, it can be seen flowing through all aspects of life, some people would call it karma, on the other end of the spectrum someone might call it investment, but what it comes down to is the cause and effect of the vibrating world. The world vibrates because it is constantly changing, no matter what efforts are made to stabilize it. To try and freeze and pinpoint what is going on in Arnold Dreyblatt's music is like spending time looking for the wizard behind the curtain while all along there is the fantastic giant *thing* there in front of you the whole time. Many times when i have tried to turn friend's on to his music i tell them , "look up" (and of course "turn it up"), because just like painters say that the eye must learn to read, the ear needs some help with it's sense of direction. And Arnold Dreyblatt's music is one hell of a giant intersection, there's no lack of propulsion; left, right, up, down, it's all there with a seriously overworked traffic controller at it's center. But above all this hubub, stories above, there is the air that is thrown into currents by all the activity below, becoming visible, crashing into each other and sending new currents on their way. I have often heard "you can't grab air", but of course you can, it just visits your hand for a moment. But with Arnold Dreyblatt, the air grabs you, and you can stay as long as you like. (and turn it up.....)