

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

Moss has gone into a deep study of Jewish mysticism in the past and "Abyss" is a manifestation of that process. He and his wife moved into her dying father's home to care for him in 2008 where he composed "Abyss" for string quartet and chorus under the influence of his father-in-law's profound humanity and his Holocaust experiences.

Reed player/composer Michael Moss has led his own musical groups including Mike Moss/4 Rivers, Free Energy, and the Accidental Orchestra, a 22 piece renaissance jazz orchestra. Collaborations include music for puppeteer Ralph Lee, storyteller Regina Ress, choreographer Judith Moss, and playwright Domnica Radulescu. Numerous grants include Meet the Composer (NewMusicUSA), NYSCA, and a 2019 grant from LMCC for three performances by the Accidental Orchestra at Westbeth. In the '70s Moss founded ERG Publishing and 4th Stream Records producing multiple LPs, cassettes, and CDs including "Intervals" (2013), "Free Play," (2015), "Dream Time," (2017) and "In Between Gigs," (2019) by the New York Free Quartet, and "HELIX," (2017) by the Accidental Orchestra. Moss is past-President of Free Life Communication (a musician's cooperative in NYC) and former Music Director of Loft in the Sky Jazz Festival (Lexington, NY).

Following a life-long passion for expanding jazz improvisation to include musical traditions from around the world, Moss has studied music of the Middle East, India, Senegal, Ireland and Europe to truly understand music reflecting different ethnic traditions and work them into compositions in the jazz tradition of John Coltrane, Eric Dolphy, Miles Davis and Cecil Taylor.