




# all about jazz

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**KENNY BURRELL**  
Midnight Sun

**Billy Bang**

Fränk Lowe  
Andrew Bemkey

Todd Nicholson  
Tatsuya Nakatani



the time is right

JEFF TAIN WATTS





**Robert MacGregor**  
***Refraction of Light***  
**Black Tri Records**  
by George Harris

If you are as sick as I am of every tenor player out there sounding like either a rehash of John Coltrane or a Ben Webster wannabe, you are going to flip over this new guy on the scene. Robert MacGregor has a tone and style all his own. His compositions grow on you more and more after each intriguing listen. Supported by a flexible and modern minded trio of Miro Sprague (piano), Perry Wortman (bass), and Will Clark (drums), MacGregor takes his horn and lets it simmer with a steely coolness similar to Joe Henderson meeting Warne Marsh. The Blue Note reminiscent opener, "The Fuse," features some high energy playing delivered at alluringly subdued tones. Like the old cliché, if you want to get someone's attention, whisper. "Local Transfer" has the band flexing a bit more muscle, with a funky backbeat supporting MacGregor's well hewn explorations. "Zizhuyuan in the Summer" conveys some serene spaciousness augmented by trumpet and flute floating over Sprague's crystalline piano playing. Smooth as silk on the West Coast boppish "R.S.V.P.," MacGregor can also add an edge of assertiveness as on the driving and progressive title piece. The music can weave in and out of your consciousness with its delicate use of dynamics, yet completely hold your interest when concentrating intensely due to the complexity of the pieces. MacGregor shows lots of maturity on *Refraction of Light*. His recording is certain to be a year end award winner.

Robert MacGregor on the web: [www.robertmacgregor.net](http://www.robertmacgregor.net).

**Track Listing:** Fuse/ Crimson Corridor/ Local Transfer/ Zizhuyuan in the Summer/ Event's Horizon/ Refraction of Light/ Path Less Traveled/ R.S.V.P./ Senbo's Dreamwalk

**Personnel:** Robert MacGregor- tenor sax; Miro Sprague- piano; Perry Wortman- bass; Will Clark- drums