

**TRIO VD****Fill it up with ghosts**

Christoph de Bezenac (sax), Chris Sharkey (guitar), Chris Bussey (drums)
Babel BDV 2985 40:53mins

BBC Music Direct

£12.72

One of the high profile products of the Leeds Improvised Music Association is trioVD, a collective which helps organise musicians and gigs in what is traditionally a special interest area of jazz – abstract improvisation.

There are echoes of Chicago's Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians, formed 40 years ago by outsider experimentalists. But although trioVD are just as free from jazz convention, they are crossing over in a small way. Maybe it's because their furious sonic assaults resonate with those who've grown up on grunge. Possibly it is because the pieces, although not written down, are well rehearsed so that the performance is tight. The resulting music is breathtaking, rushing at you in dense percussive waves, using repeated phrases and effects to form a mad sound that's like a wire brush to the ears. By the way, VD stands for Valentine's Day. *Garry Booth*

PERFORMANCE

★★★★

RECORDING

★★★★

RECOMMEND