## Grachan Moncur III

45 RPM

**Evolution**

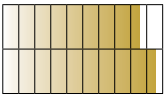
Blue Note/Music Matters 84153

Trombone enthusiasts must have been a little shocked when young Grachan Moncur burst on the scene in the early 60's with a steady stream of compositions and a new style of playing trombone foreign to those used to listening to Jay Jay Johnson.

He started out at Blue Note playing on (and composing for) two Jackie McLean albums, and then recorded two as leader. *Evolution* is composed of four Moncur songs, played by Lee Morgan, Jackie McLean, Bobby Hutcherson, Bob Cranshaw and Anthony Williams.

It's a haunting and at the same time dramatic piece of music making. 'Air Raid' establishes the tone of the album. The title tune is an exquisite piece of writing that should be set to modern ballet.

The playful The Coaster brings more of a 60's groove to the otherwise "out there" session. Monk In Wonderland brings to mind both Alice and Thelonious. Moncur could have had two-disc 45-RPM LPs in mind when he wrote this album, as each of the four extended pieces fits perfectly to a side of a 45 record. Done up in Music Matter's always sumptuous packaging and perfect mastering, this excellent title may be new to some but should not remain that way. Very highly recommended.

**RECORDING**

**MUSIC**