

Sports & Entertainment

Billy Childs releases his “Triumvirate” on Mack Avenue Records, his first trio recording in 25 years to appease fans

April 27, 2026 – 6x GRAMMY-winning pianist and composer Billy Childs has released his new album **Triumvirate** on Mack Avenue Records. His first trio recording in 25 years, Triumvirate harnesses the energy and creative prowess of his touring group — bassist **Matt Penman** and drummer **Ari Hoenig** — into a masterclass of material revisited from his earliest recordings, within an intimate setting of equal parts lineage and evolution. Recently, Childs spoke with NPR’s Weekend Edition Saturday to share insight into the making of Triumvirate, including his single “One Fleeting Instant.”

In preparing the setlist for Triumvirate, Childs reached back into his repertoire from some of his earliest recordings to find material ripe for revisiting. For this momentous occasion, he enlisted a pair of elite bandmates in **Penman and Hoenig**. A longtime member of the all-star **SFJazz Collective**, Penman has worked with such acclaimed names as John Scofield, Joe Lovano and Wayne Shorter, and co-founded the collective quartet James Farm with Joshua Redman, Aaron Parks and Eric Harland. Hoenig has played extensively with a variety of groups, including Chris



Potter Underground and Kurt Rosenwinkel Group, and bands led by Wayne Krantz, Mike Stern,

Richard Bona and Pat Martino.

While Childs hadn’t officially recorded with either Penman or Hoenig in the past, they had formed the rhythm section for quartets with frontline players like Steve Wilson, Chris Potter and Sean Jones. During the course of those gigs, they would typically include a trio number in the set. Since the word was first coined in the days of ancient

Rome, Triumvirate has indicated a group of three, all holding equal power and responsibility. Such is certainly the case for this incredibly adaptable trio, each member contributing an integral share and each able to steer the sound in any direction from moment to moment — all of which makes this album a long overdue and determinedly welcome return to the format for Childs.

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Triumvirate is the anticipated follow-up to Childs’ 2023 LP The Winds of Change, which took home the GRAMMY for Best Jazz Instrumental Album upon its release. An acclaimed and in-demand classical music composer, he has maintained an eminent reputation as an adept and deeply swinging jazz musician over his nearly 50-year career. Along the way, he has garnered six GRAMMY Awards and an astounding 17 nominations, while receiving commissions from such esteemed ensembles as the Kronos Quartet, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Leonard Slatkin, Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the National Symphony, the Orpheus Orchestra, the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, and the American Brass Quintet. His works have been performed at Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, and Disney Concert Hall.

Childs will bring his new music to cities including Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York – see a list of dates below or visit his website for more information.

Triumvirate:

1. One Fleeting Instant
2. Carefree
3. Like Father Like Son
4. Heroes
5. Whisper Not
6. Ask Me Now
7. Lazy Afternoon
8. Flamenco Sketches

Tour Dates:

- April 30 - San Francisco, CA - Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall *
- May 5 - Los Angeles, CA - Walt Disney Concert Hall +
- May 13-17 - New York, NY - Smoke Jazz Club
- May 19 - Washington, D.C. - Blues Alley
- May 22 - Rockport, MA - Shalin Liu Center
- May 23 - Old Lyme, CT - Side Door
- May 29-30 - Los Angeles, CA - Catalina's
- July 5 - Portsmouth, NH - Jimmy's Jazz & Blues Club

* RJAM Big Band featuring Billy Childs on piano + Billy Childs - piano, Dan Chmielewski - bass, Christian Euman – drums, along with strings from the LA Phil

Lee Newton releases acoustic LP “Beautifully Undone” from sports-Ent. 4

Newton Honored in Hometown with Official ‘Lee Newton Day’ Recognition on April 25, 2026



Lee Newton is shown here with North Carolina General Assembly Representative Jake Johnson. (Photo/Courtesy: 2911)



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About Lee Newton:

Lee Newton is a Nashville recording artist and singer-songwriter from a small town in western North Carolina whose music blends traditional country, soulful blues, and a touch of Southern rock. Inspired early by legends like Hank Williams, Loretta Lynn, Tammy Wynette, and Patsy Cline, Newton began singing in church at age five and learned guitar from her father at seven.

Her career has included collaborations with artists such as Leona Williams, Pam Tillis, T. Graham Brown, Joe Bonsall, and Rhonda Vincent. A multiple Josie Music Awards winner, including Vocalist of the Year and Album of the Year, Newton continues to build momentum with new releases, media appearances, and her powerful blend of heartfelt storytelling and authentic country roots.

Heidi Parton for a special recording of the classic “Silver Threads and Golden Needles,” released earlier this year. Originally recorded in 1956 by rockabilly pioneer Wanda Jackson and later championed by legends like Dolly Parton, Tammy Wynette, and Loretta Lynn, the song has long stood as an anthem of strength and independence—now reimagined by three women honoring that enduring tradition. For more information, visit lee-

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