JANET KUYPERS POETRY IN THE STREETS

Tennessee Kentucky Indiana Illinois 05/10/09

Morning Will Be Kind

Kiss me, stoned and drunk flesh is the answer

Listen to the wisdom, moaning in my foreign bed and the scent and smell of new skin

An apex of blinding then close your eyes wondering vaguely why

You let me enter, hoping morning will be kind

I'M ALWAYS THE ONE

i'm always the one who has to pick up the pieces

all i've done is wipe your noses and clean your rooms

and now i have to clean up my life and i have no one to help me

3

AND FLOWERS AND FUNERALS

there are supposed to be grand kids, and meals and flowers and funerals

My head didn't hurt all the time before And now all i have is this lack of memory My life used to make sense

I wonder what details I lost in my life I record what is left of my memories I attempt to rescue what is left of my memories and hope that is enough

You Know It

so there are these fish in my apartment and they're gold fish, they're not like tropical fish or anything and they just want to rush their little bodies up to the sides of the glass and stare at you and you know, some people have no preference about these fish

and for some people, they try not to think about these things and they try not to tell you much at all and they try to keep themselves away from all that and they try to act aloof and they try to say all the right things and the whole time well, the whole time those little fish and gawking at you and it's like they are monitoring you

and when the night is over you've still got those little fish and you know they'll be there in the morning and you know you'll have to feed them and you know they'll have to depend on you for something

they'll have to

you know it

What It Felt Like

i think i have felt it before i think i remember touching it, and it was well, it was soft, and warm, and fuzzy

that makes it sound like a blanket but a blanket can only be warm for so long and it never is long enough to cover you and the cold air is always getting in and you can feel the breeze from where the blanket fails you

no, what i have felt before, what i am sure i have touched before is giving, and soft, and warm but it doesn't give too much or it would disappear

it is kind of like cat's fur have you ever felt cat's fur before? when you glide you hand along a cat with the fur it is like silk, it is very, well, how do you describe it

don't rub that cat fur the wrong way, though because that's when it fights againsty you

it does not hurt you or give way too easily it satiates you into feeling that life is good again and when nothing seems to do that for you sometimes all you've got is love, i mean, that feeling of warmth and softness

do you know what i am talking abot i am sure i have felt that feeling before i must have

I DON'T WANT TO

I don't want to make a million bucks I don't want to worry about beauty first I don't want to do everything myself I don't want to let everyone do things for me I don't want to help the poor I don't want to give up what I have earned

But I don't think I earned this And I don't think I'm being punished For a deed I did not committ

Who am I supposed to apologize to Who am I supposed to accountable Who am I supposed to forgive

I don't want to think about the bad stuff but the bad stuff keeps coming back To haunt me And I don't like it

I don't want to live this way, and I don't want to keep paying for someone else's sins

people tell me I'm being pessimistic when I say I don't want to But at least it proves, at least, That I am angry, and That I live I'm alive enough to know that I don't want to

ALL YOUR FAULT

you know i could kick your ass for not calling for not showing you care for moving across the country for leaving me

you left me, you know, let me repeat that, you left me and that's how i'll remember it nothing more, nothing less and god damnit, i wanted a future with you i planned it all in my head

and hindsight's 20/20 i know i was a fool but i still know it was your fault and i won't accept any other explanation

i've got to put my foot down on something, you know

and so i left you and i thought that would surprise you

but you have so much on your mind to worry 'bout 'lil ol' me, don't you

i wonder if you even knew i was there

there are many things i could have told you and never did and i want some kind of closure so i can put you behind me forever so i will no longer think that i was your only hope

GERBIL

So I've got this gerbil this hampster this rat

and he's running around and he's trying to get everything done and he gets distracted and he has to do something else

and runs somewhere else

it's like that little fucker is in one of those circular wheel cages and he's running in circles and he's getting nowhere

and this is my life, you see and this is my brain, you see

and this is what I go through I don't know how to explain it

that gerbil that hamster rat is still going in circles and I can't stop it but maybe I should just take my hand like the judge holding the gavel and slam that damn thing down and stop this damn cage circle and stop this damn cycle before it goes on any longer

Lost in the Breeze

I have only seen you through my rose-colored glasses I know you thought of me On the most important day of my life And well, wouldn't you think of me anyway We've had enough of a track record together to earn it

I know you thought of me you did things for me But a part of me ask for you there Because I knew it would matter to you

I know you thought of me you worked for me But the minute you're our obligations were met Well, my name flew away like a feather on the breeze Caught up in the wind And then muffled noise That was my night And was my life Was forgotten

I know you were doing me a favor And I am grateful for that And all that I afraid I will carry with me Is that you did what you felt you had to do And then Like my name, a muffle sound lost in the breeze I left you And you thought that you lost nothing And you went on your way

Gears get Caught in the Mud

I've wanted to be so much for you I've wanted to to cook your meals and clean your clothes And even wanted it to surprise you I've wanted to do things To catch you off guard To beat your intelligence

And once I want to start My gears gets caught in the mud And they start spinning And I try to get them out But I usually never learn And I spin them and some more And I get further buried in the ground And it's like I'm digging my own grave By spinning my own wheels And trying so hard To be everything to everyone, No, wait, to you

I'm trying to be so much And do so much I'm trying to accomplish so much bit I'm spinning my wheels and I'm burying myself And I want you to know That I'm trying

Once Wanted You as my Friend

I should laugh about this. I know that people will probably hear your stories and think I was a bad and evil girl. I don't care. I didn't want to be a part of your life any more. I wanted you as my friend after I was falling apart and I thought I had no one and I wanted my life back and because I believed you. You told people I was your best friend and you are a liar, plainly put. I didn't know you'd fuck your best friend's date. Hell, fuck the guy for a month until your neurotic ego can't take it. I don't give a shit about a year and a half recovery from that evil spell of yours but I should never have forgiven you. Maybe you need attention from every penis you can get it from, maybe you're more of an attention whore than I could ever be, than anyone I know could ever be, by my neurotic tendencies didn't keep me in my parent's house while I studied for another job because I didn't know what the Hell I wanted and maybe my tendencies didn't make me lose my friends or go through men like hand rags or give me sexually transmitted diseases

and didn't leave me fucking someone else while I was engaged "I've never orgasmed while having sex with him," you'd say well, I don't know what to tell you. All I can think is that you've made this bad out of straw and fabric scraps and I don't care if it rained yesterday and your precious bed smells like shit and you've got nothing clean to grab on to well, you've made that bed and now you have to lie in it. so so have a good night's sleep while you try to make sense of what you think is insane God, the only insane thing is that your man still puts up with you or how much of your story haven't you told him?

So yes, I should be laughing because you're the one filled with so many questions. Please, for your own benefit, for OUR own benefit, get them figured out.

I wanted to cut off ties from you sooner but I would have had to lose one of my closest friends in the process and we couldn't have that (of course not). But I'm glad your warped mentality misconstrued what I said and that is exactly what you did nothing more, nothing less but you at least got the idea because no, I don't want to be a part of your life any longer and I don't want to openly condone CREATION RELATION ' JANET KUYPERS

what you've done to your man and what you're doing to your man and I want to walk away from this unscathed

so I think I will.

Joy

I wasn't a popular grade-school kid, things were thown at me, I was knocked down once, so I knew kids could be cruel. But once I waslked to a swingset at recess and Joy sat there alone. She was teased because she was overweight. So I asked her why she was alone. She turned her arm so I could see the two-inch long bruise there. She then got up and started to speak and turned and lifted the back of her shirt. She said some kids started hitting her with the chains from the swingset; then I saw her back. I could see how the foot-long bruises matched perfectly with the metal chains.

I didn't know what to say. These chains are for swings so children could play. This swing, this tool for joy became a tool for unjust punishment.

AFTER THE WRECKAGE

I can't leave this funeral that never seems to end I can't leave this funeral that, in a way, never started And all I know is that I have been doing all of the mourning

And is that the way it goes? Is someone mourning for you for too long And you, the deceased, didn't know anyone would care And you, the deceased, didn't know they were dead So

So was it just me Do I feel this alone

Does your spirit rise after the wreckage And you watch from above And see how everyone reacts And see how I cry And see how I suffer

Is this what you're doing to me?

And now, after the funeral, And I have to clean up the room And I have to put awasy the flowers And I have to escort the people out Because they don't deserve to be here Because they don't even clean up the mess

I should know by now It's still me It's only me Isn't it? Is that the way it goes?

The Creation Explanation And defining what creates what



Connections between the religious right and our government... Booming through our car speakers were all these connections, as we drove to Memphis for our weekend road trip. Chris Hedges was reading from his book "American Fascists: The Religious Right and the War on America," which we had an audio CD for long drives like this one, and we were probably over half way through the audio CD set (and had already driven through Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and had just driven through Kentucky) when we heard the reader mention the "Creation Museum" in passing. W. Szewai (from New York) wrote in a review of this book: "At The Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky, which "prove[s] that God's word is true," Hedges writes "The danger of creationism is...that it allows all facts to be accepted or discarded according to the dictates of a preordained ideology." But their



comments about the Creation Museum were much harsher than that, and when they mentioned in the book that it was in Kentucky (they did not mention where), I turned to my husband

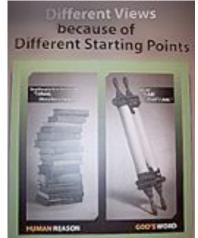
and said that we have to check at poet C Ra McGuirt's house for an Internet connection in Nashville, so we can see where this museum is, and see if it may be close to on our way home from this weekend poetry trip.

Well, we made it to C Ra McGuirt's house, we read poetry, played the guitar and sang, and even went over proof copies of the C Ra McGuirt Scars Publications book "nopoem." All in all, it was a great time. But before we left Sunday morning to return home (with a second video camera for filming poetry on the road in 3 states), we discovered the Creation Museum was just a few miles out of our way on our trip home (thanks to http://www.creationmuseum.org/). Even though they charged an insanely steep entrance price to the Creation Museum, I just *had* to check out the "special effects" they used to explain how dinosaurs lived at the same time that humans did on earth. (I mean, I thought it would be totally fascinating to see how they justify what we've learned through science that otherwise disproves the Bible.) So, a little after noon EST (closer to 11:30 CST), we entered the Creation Museum. I had my husband's camera ready (since I filled mine with video footage from the 2009 Cana-Dixie Union night of poetry readings) so I could somehow document our travels — and try to document how other people can alter the facts to justify their own unproven beliefs (you know, beliefs supported by no facts — I mean, that's what *faith* is for, right?).



As soon as we paid our admission, a man asked to take our picture with a green screen. So we kept our pamphlets behind our backs and took a picture; then he asked us to look up at the scale models on the 2nd floor balcony and act "scared" to see the dinosaurs (because they were going to superimpose this image of us over images of dinosaurs). My husband did a much better job of play acting scared of dinosaurs for the photo, but we had our pictures taken and then entered the main hall for a walking tour to explain how the Bible modifies what science has revealed.

So I started going through the hallways with scale models and posters, and I started photographing everything (to help me remember all of their details). The first poster I found said that there are different views if people have different "starting points." If you rely on human reason, for example, you can agree with philosopher Rene Descartes' "I think, therefore I am," but if you choose to rely on God's word, you should agree that God said, "I am that I am." Okay, if you jump to that conclusion, that you can support that God's word is the key to the past, the present and the future, because the next Creation



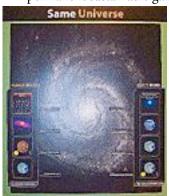
Museum poster explains that God is before all things (Corinthians 1:17), and since creation began at 4004 BC, "God's intervention at key periods in history explains most of the world we see today." (Okay, want a better descrip-



tion of what happened since 4004 BC? Creation and Corruption happened at 4004 BC, but Catastrophes on earth and later Confusion occurred closer to 2000 BC. Not much happened in earth's history until 1 AD, where the posted explains that Christ was born, which is actually different from when historians say they believe Christ was born, but he was placed on the cross

shortly afterward... which leads to the present, of "Consumption." Thanks for the helpful poster, Creation Museum...)

Wow, this is fun, trying to compare how Creationism explains how God did all of this versus "human reason," or scientific knowledge. (Granted, discovering our past scientifically is just a theory, since no one was there, but at least science uses evidence to come to its conclusions.) Saw another poster that explained the creation of the Universe (this should be more my thing, since I'm so much more into astronomy than human history...). According to what we humans have learned, after the Big Bang, billions of years ago (which we have scientifically actually been able to discover remnants to explain what happened right *after* the Big Bang), galaxies evolved. (In more detailed terms large masses formed but could not sustain themselves so they started to break apart, the more permanent sustainable galaxies formed.). Then our own solar system (the Milky



Way Galaxy) formed (which we are on the outer edge of, and when we see the milky band in the sky on a clear rural night, we're only looking at our little slice of a small portion of the Milky Way galaxy). Then historically speaking, our own earth and moon formed (there is actually the Giant Impact Theory, which states that the moon was formed by a Mars-sized body that some scientists call "Orpheus" or "Theia" striking early earth – or earth mach 1, which formed our moon, which moves away from earth' orbit about 1 inch every year, and

as earth later hardened, allowed from the impact more land to rise over the water on earth, forming continents). But you see, in another comparative poster from the Creation Museum, on Day 1 (yes, they believe everything was created literally in 6 days, and have a film on it in the middle of this museum viewing) God decided "Let There Be Light" (which is different from the light from the Sun, which was formed on Day 4), earth was created on Day 2, land masses on earth were formed in Day 3, and the Sun was formed on Day 4. Oh, and keep in mind that this all happened "thousands of years ago," instead of relying on the scientific evidence that the Universe for started "billions of years ago."

Oh, okay, let me get back to the history of civilization here... Anthropologists have discovered dinosaur remains, and dated their living time in history, but here is another point where the Creation Museum argues with what science has discovered. For you see, throughout their museum they pose that people make these claims that these dinosaur bones were found, but then they ask, *when* did they live? *How* did they get there? Is this place on earth *where* they lived, or where did they move from? *What* caused their extinction? (Yes, they pretty much ask the who/what/where/when/why of major events in earth's history.) They do this repeatedly throughout the museum, while never understanding that scientists have been able on many levels to answer these questions through science.

We even progressed to the next stage of the museum viewing, which explained that God placed all of the animals on earth along with Adam and Eve, and all were able to get along on earth.

Yes, even humans and dinosaurs.

Even though there is no scientific evidence that humans live at the same time in history as dinosaurs, the Creation Museum explains that they all lived together peacefully before Adam and Eve committed the Original Sin of eating an apple from the Tree of Knowledge (why would humans want knowledge anyway?), because all animals were vegetarians.

Okay, I'm a vegetarian, but I'd like to hear more about how they explain this all... The Creation Museum explains that all animals were vegetarians, and all could eat fruit and vegetables from the trees (which are not living things, according to the Bible, but are "green things"), but after Adam and Eve clothed themselves and lost favor to God, they made sacrifices to appease God, which is at the same time animals learned they could eat each other for food. And even though dinosaurs and large animals seem to be created for consuming animal flesh, and they have teeth to support the ripping of flesh for consumption, the

Creation Museum explains that those dinosaur teeth are perfect for ripping through large hard melons, to consume the sweet fruit within the hardened shell.

(Okay, though I still don't go for their explanation, I have to admit that's a novel way of explaining their "My, what sharp teeth you have" strong teeth away...)



As we were walking through the Creation Museum and reading about these things, a woman and her two small children were also going through the museum exhibits, and she was talking to her kids (which were probably around 4 years old), reiterating the posters to her children (because if they *could* read it, I'm sure they didn't *want* to), explaining to them (like this museum is the only proof they need) that God *did* create the earth and heavens in 6 days, and that humans didn't come from any "tree of life," but as a very direct descent from God's will. So I tried to tune out what this mother was saying to her children, thinking that it wasn't my business (I should know better, I'm a journalist and I should snoop more, I know), but my husband asked me if I was listening to the mother talking in the museum. I told him that I tried to tune her out, so he explained to me what he heard her telling her small children. Let me try to paraphrase what she was telling her children here:

> "People who tell you how the earth was not created by God... Remember, they are liars. People who say the earth is billions of years old... They are wrong. God created the earth in six days, six thousand years ago. These people who ask you to think about these things... They are trying to deceive you. They are doing the work of Satan."

Nice, lady, instill fear in the 4 year olds to make them believe in Christ as their Lord and Savior. I mean, this is what most dictators use to get people to do and believe what they want, use fear to keep people in line.

This mother was telling her small children that other people who don't believe in the strict word of the Bible and rely at all on science are deceivers and liars. This mother was (and probably always is) brainwashing her 4-yearold children.

It's sad that we had to hear this individual indoctrination during our viewing of the Creation Museum, because as we left her and her children in the darkened poster hallways, we entered a large room with scale humans in the jungles of the Garden of Eden (with probably smaller than real-life wild animals around them). The exhibits showed a man with deer, an antelope, a lamb, a monkey, a



penguin (hey, penguins are only in Antarctica, with a select few penguins in the Galapagos Islands) and a flamingo (and wait a minute, flamingos are only in Africa, South America and the Galapagos Islands). The man looked happy hanging out naked with all of the animals of earth – except the dinosaurs, of course, which were in the exhibit near the woman. There was even an exhibit of a dinosaur biting at a melon to get the juicy insides for food.

(I'm sorry, I'm still stuck on this meat-devouring teeth and gastro-intestinal system designed for eating animal flesh, being something God designed to eat through hardened melons to get to the fruit inside. What a riot.)

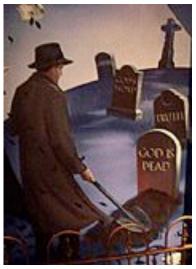


My husband also said he heard this mother say to her small children as we passed the dinosaur exhibits and posters something to the effect of "See honey, people did live with dinosaurs..." as if she wanted to use this Creation Museum as a fact-based corroboration of her beliefs in the Bible, to help prove that these stories *must* be true to her little children.

So we passed through the human-animal "historically" living-in-harmony exhibits to watch the 5-minute video display of how the 6 days transpired to create our earth as we know it. The film ran in a repeating loop, so we could just sit down anywhere, watch the film, and be on our way.

There were more explanations, of things like how large volcanic eruptions at Mount St. Helens (with cooling ash clouds) can explain the cooling of the earth after the Flood, and that Lookit Canyon, Step Canyon, Engineers Canyon and Little Grand Canyon had mudflows that can cut canyons (the way they explain the Flood also did). You know, I could go on about the little details, but you can see some of the images and perspectives (other than perspectives straight from) at Creation Museum Pictures at the Atheist Perspective (http://www.atheistperspective.com/creation-museum-pictures/).

While at the Creation Museum, I saw how that mother was telling her small children (who were young enough to listen to and blindly believe everything their mother said) about how God started everything in literally 6 days, and how man lived with dinosaurs (who were vegetarians; I'd really love to learn more about the wegetarian Tyrannosaurus, I really would, "my what big teeth you have for eating those hard-shelled melons..."). It truly scares me to think of how these religious organizations are selectively choosing what science has shown to support their beliefs, then saying every other scientific discovery is wrong. I wish people would



check their premises before making these baseless decisions about what to believe in their lives... It is funny, when people try to make debatable arguments for their side of a case, that they will selectively listen to *some* facts, but ignore others, and hope that nobody will notice their omissions and support their theories as blindly as they do.



)anet frages

Janet Kuypers

(Author photo from the Creation Museum, superimposed over the Garden of Eden)

I know I just listened to an audio book about how religion is trying to change this country, but I suppose I had to spend the money to visit the Creation Museum, just to see the indoctrination on a micro-level for myself to believe that people can really think this way.

P.S.: If you want to see something

funny, go to the insanely long link below, and see pictures they took of us superimposed over: the Garden of Eden, us both inside AND outside Noah's Ark, a galaxy in outer space (which doesn't look half bad), and dinosaurs (you know, since the Creation Museum explains how dinosaurs lived peacefully with us on earth before Adam and Eve's Original Sin of eating an apple from the Tree of Knowledge, when all creatures on the planet were vegetarians):

http://fotofx.photogra.com/index.cfm?p=afflookup&viewaff=&d=creation&imageid=0509& mon=05&yr=2009&iday=10&dpath=2009_05_10&dID=_&IName=t_5A10509_72.jpg&UE mail=EnterYourEmail20090513113941316%40photogra.com&overlay=&op=w&iselects=10509&iurl=&subD=CREATION&upath=\ImgDisk3\CREATION\09-05-11_04-13-10_CRE-ATION%2F&udp=\\photonasbak\static3%24&ImageName=5A10509_72.jpg&imagecode=1&mst=



Poetry read while driving through the Mid West, after listening to the audio book "American Fascists" and later viewing the Creation Museum

CREATION RELATION JANET KUYPERS http://www.janetkuypers.com scarspublications

11

 published in conjunction with cc&d magazine

 the unreligious, nonfamily-oriented literary and art magazine

 ccandd96@scars.tv

 http://scars.tv

 ISSN 1068-5154

Freedom & Strength Press

the Copyright for the written pieces is retained by the author. Design Copyright © 2009 Scars Publications and Design

other publications from Scars:

Magazines: Children, Churches and Daddies (cc&d magazine), founded June 1993; Down in the Dirt, conceived 1994, founded 2000

Books: Hope Chest in the Attic, the Window, Close Cover Before Striking, (Woman.), Autumn Reason, Contents Under Pressure, the Average Guy's Guide (to Feminism), Changing Gears, the Key to Believing, Domestic Blisters, Etc., Oeuvre, Exaro Versus, L'arte, The Other Side, The Boss Lady's Editorials, The Boss Lady's Editorials (2005 Expanded Edition), Duality, Seeing Things Differently, Change/Rearrange, Death Comes in Threes, Moving Performances, Six Eleven, Life at Cafe Aloha, Creams, Rough Mixes, The Entropy Project, The Other Side (2006 Edition), Stop., Sing Your Life, The Beauty and the Destruction, cc&d v167.5 (Writing to Hanour & Cherish, editor edition), Blister & Burn (the Kuypers edition), S&M, cc&d v170.5 Distinguished Writings editor edition, Living in Chaos, Silent Screams, Taking It All In, It All Comes Down, Rising to the Surface, Galapagos, Chapter 38 (v1), Finally, Literature for the Snotty and Elite (v1),

Sulphur & Sawdust, Slate & Marrow, Blister & Burn, Rinse & Repeat, Survive & Thrive, (not so) Warm & Fuzzy, Torture & Triumph, Oh., the Elements, Side A/Side B, Balance, Chaos Theory, Writing To Honour & Cherish, Distinguished Writings, Breaking Silences, Unlocking the Mysteries, the Book of Scars, We The Poets, Life on the Edge, Revealing all your Dirty Little Secrets, Decrepit Remains, Charred Remnants, Hope & Creation, Bending the Curve, Layers of Creation, Dark Matter, Infamous in our Prime, Anais Nin: an Understanding of her Art, the Electronic Windmill, Changing Waman, the swan road, the Significance of the Frontier, The Svetasvatara Upanishad, Harvest of Gems, the Little Monk, Death in Málaga, Momento Mori, In the Palace of Creation, R.I.P., Bob the Bumble Bee, Remnants and Shadows, I Saw This, the Drive, Thomas at Tea, Crashing Down Nineteenth, Blue Collar Ballet, Hope & Creation, Bending the Curve, Layers of Creation, Dark Matter, Chapter 38 (v1 & v2), Finally: Literature for the Snotty and Elite (3 volumes), Survival of the Fittest, a Wake-Up Call From Tradition.

Compact Discs: Mon's Favorite Vase the demo tapes, Kuypers the final (MFV Inclusive), Weeds and Flowers the beauty & the desolation, The Second Axing Something is Sweating, The Second Axing Live in Alaska, Pettus & Kuypers Live at Cafe Alaha, Pointless Orchestra Rough Mixes, Kuypers Seeing Things Differently, 50/5D Tick Tock, Kuypers Change Rearrange, Order From Chaos The Entropy Project, Kuypers Six One One, Kuypers Stop., Kuypers Masterful Performances mp3 (D, Kuypers Death Comes in Threes, Kuypers Changing Gears, Kuypers Dreams, Kuypers How Do I Get There?, Kuypers Contact - Conflict - Control, the DMJ Art Connection the DMJ Art Connection, Kuypers Dreams, Kuypers How Do I Get There?, Kuypers WZRD Radio (2 CD set), Mon's Favorite Vase and The Second Axing These Truths, assorted artists String Theory, Oh (audio CD), Life At The Cafe (3 CD set), DMJ Art Connection Indian Flux, DMJ Art Connection Manic Depressive or Something, Chaotic Radio Chaotic Radio Week #1, Chaotic Radio the Chaotic Collection Collection #01-05 (5 CD set) etc. (audia CD, 2 CD set), Chaotic Elements (2 CD set), Chaos in Mation (6 CD set), SD/5D Screeching to a Holt (EP), P8&J Two for the Price of One (EP), Kiki, Jake and Haystack. An American Portrait, Kuypers/the Bastard Trio/Paul Baker/the JaAnne Powlers Trio Fusion (4 CD set).