

# The Boston Globe

## Erik Telford, 'Kinetic' (February 14, 2010)

Erik Telford's new album, "Kinetic," represents everything that is right with contemporary jazz. This is the first album as a leader from the young trumpeter and Berklee College of Music graduate (who now lives in Austin, Texas), and it's a stunning debut. Drawing on influences that include Miles Davis's acoustic-electric groups and Herbie Hancock's Mwandishi project as well as modern-day rock and ska, Telford announces himself as a vehemently original voice. Few musicians get it right the first time, but it's hard to see (or hear) how "Kinetic" could be a more complete accomplishment. Nicely bookended by a prelude and postlude that excerpt the disc's centerpiece and title track, "Kinetic" patiently traverses a range of territory, from the fiercely funky "Horizon Problem" to the churning "3012" to the lovely ballad "Rosemary" - and that's only the first three tunes. Telford's trumpet playing is adventurous yet tuneful, and his band (which includes keyboards, guitar, bass, drums, and two other horns) coalesces in a way that suggests great leadership. It all comes to a head on the insistent rock of "The Rival," featuring some blistering guitar work from Danny Anderson. What in the world is Telford going to do for a second act?

- Steve Greenlee

### **Bookings**

[bookings@ejtmusic.com](mailto:bookings@ejtmusic.com)