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by Jerome Wison.

Ad Colen and his quartet come from the Netherlands but their sound comes largely from America with some European flavorings. A ponderous “oompah” rhythm starts out the opening “Squirrel” but the piece opens up into funky hard bop with Colen's tenor dominant. The dreamy and folkish “Kump Good”, the jumping rumba “Spark” and the slippery waltz “Cabbage and Coleslaw” all show that Colen has an authoritative sound on tenor while the dancing “Petit Poivron” and “Spark”, a mixture of blues spiritual and Russian folksong, shows his singing, flowing style on soprano. “Avec Le Temps” is a French-accented ballad, “Flying Alaska” has tricky cymbal work by Yonga Sun and rich, flying tenor over a choppy, nervous rhythm and “Jobbernowl” ends things with a solemn dirge of slowly baying soprano and sparse piano over heavy beats. Colen really stretches out beautifully here. All the members of Colen's quartet, Bijvoet, Mahieu and Sun, do their part to make this group effective and make its overall sound strong.