

# DOWNBEAT

Jazz, Blues

Fire Music Returns

Vijay Iyer  
Terence  
Soweto  
Wynton  
and Oth  
Social a  
Statem

Going  
ICP's C  
40-Yea

Keith  
Transc

David

Broo  
Unde

Larr

Blind

## JAZZ

### Songbird Stroll

by Robert Doerschuk

Then there's *A Spirit Free: Abbey Lincoln Songbook* (Challenge 73253; 67:301) ★★★, on which Kendra Shank interprets songs that Lincoln had written and rendered in what, up to this moment, had to be considered definitive presentations. Take "Down Here Below," which the composer recorded as a ballad with string backup. Here, Shank performs it almost as a sung poetry recital, with Billy Drewes on bass clarinet and Dean Johnson on bass underscoring the idea of depth through sound, which Gary Versace complements poignantly on accordion. "The Music Is The Magic" blossoms in 5/4 over an ostinato that Shank plays on kalimba and, on soprano pianist Frank Kimbrough and, on saxophone, Drewes cast nets of gossamer sound. *Freedom* animates these performances. **DB**

Ordering info: [challenge.nl](http://challenge.nl)



April 2007 DOWNBEAT Page 63

# Breckner

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