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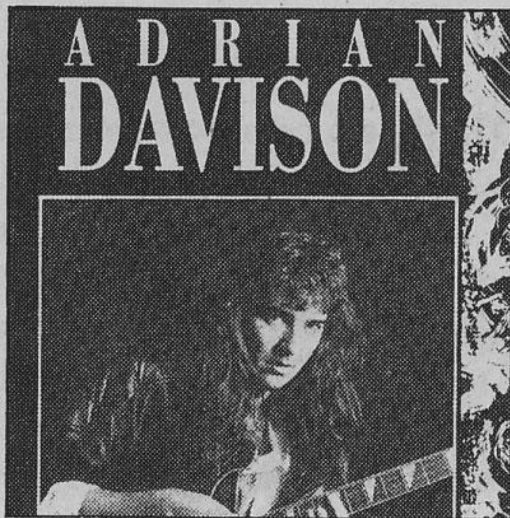
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ADRIAN DAVISON

Bass Symphony
PRODIGY MUSIC

THIS SHOWCASE OF two-handed tapping virtuosity introduces bassist Adrian Davison, Canada's answer to Stu Hamm and Michael Manring. You know the deal by now—ostinatos in the left hand, Bachian contrapuntal lines, tons of arpeggios. All technically exciting, yet somehow lacking the passion to move. Aside from the title cut and "Nuances," both unaccompanied exhibitions of two-handed hammering, the album is merely a collection of ditties and motifs strung together with some nods to the rock world (courtesy of Paul Marangoni's double bass drum thumping). In all, *Symphony* is too bombastic to be appreciated by the chamber music set and too antiseptic to really reach rockers. Bassists may be thrilled or amused or inspired by the sheer chops involved in this two-handed tapathon. Others will simply ask: Why? (available from Prodigy Music, P.O. Box 572, Station R. Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4G 4E1)

—BILL MILKOWSKI