The Kitchen's 25th
Anniversary Season

The Kitchen and
Composers' Forum present

ForWord! No. 9

Oliver Lake
The Matador of First & First

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The Kitchen
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Oliver Lake has been the featured artist on no less than fifty recordings, many of them under his own leadership. He formed the World Saxophone Quartet in 1976 with Hamiet Bluiett, David Murray, and Julius Hemphill, a group which has performed in many countries and won considerable critical acclaim. In 1981, he formed Jump Up, a jazz/funk/reggae band which was selected to tour Africa on behalf of the United States' Information Agency's Arts America Program. Blue Star, a group he founded in 1986, is a quartet of accomplished improvising musicians devoted to Oliver's more experimental musical ventures. Included among his commissions are two compositions for the Brooklyn Philharmonic featured in the Brooklyn Academy of Music's 1983 Meet the Moderns Series. A composition for string quartet was performed in 1985 at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum.
In 1987, Oliver was invited to participate in the US-USSR Composers Symposium where he performed and supervised the performance of chamber music in the USSR. On February 28, 1988 the Arditti String Quartet performed *Input*, one of Oliver's works for string quartet, for their New York City premiere performance.
That same year the Brooklyn Philharmonic and World Saxophone Quartet performed his work for orchestra and saxophone quartet, *Urban Art II*.

He has recieved three National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Fellowship grants and numerous New York State Fellowships and Meet the Composer grants. In Paris, Oliver taught music at the Electronic Workshop. He has served on the panel of the Jazz Committee of the National Endowment for the Arts. In 1988 he recieved a commission from the Massachusetts Arts Council for compositions for big band which were performed in Boston and Cleveland, and broadcast on the American Jazz Festival on National Public Radio in April, 1989.