**NEW RELEASE**
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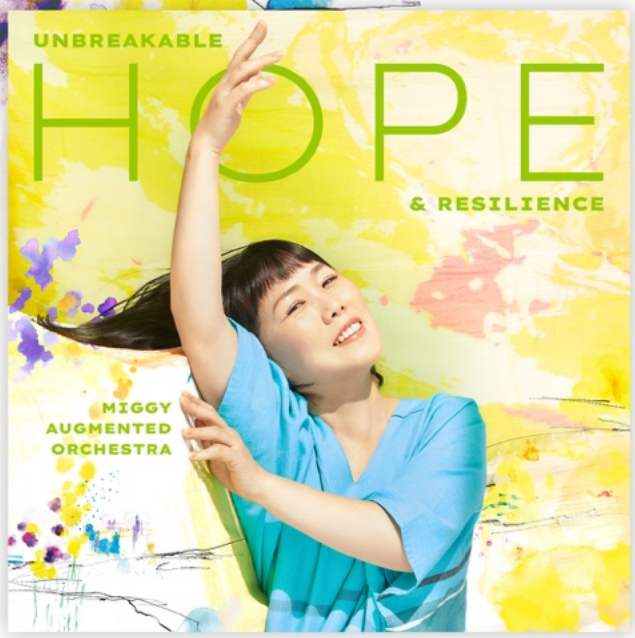
# UNBREAKABLE HOPE & RESILIENCE

## MIGGY AUGMENTED ORCHESTRA




Composer, pianist, and six-time GRAMMY-nominated producer **Migiwa "Miggy" Miyajima** transforms personal testimony into sweeping large ensemble storytelling on ***Unbreakable Hope & Resilience***, the latest release from her **Miggy Augmented Orchestra**. Recorded live at **Dizzy's Club at Jazz at Lincoln Center**, the 72-minute documentary-style suite draws from Miyajima's interviews with twenty survivors and volunteers connected to the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. Blending a 17-piece big band with spoken narration from actors Megan Masako Haley, Ashton Muñiz, and Arielle Gonzalez, the album moves between devastation, memory, grief, and perseverance with cinematic emotional depth.

A survivor of 3.11 herself, Miyajima spent 7 years interviewing individuals whose lives were permanently altered by the disaster: a pastor displaced by Fukushima, a mother and son rebuilding after unimaginable loss, volunteers who relocated to shattered communities, and her own mother, who survived both the earthquake and cancer. Across nine movements and four narrations, *Unbreakable Hope & Resilience* honors not heroism, but humanity: ordinary people continuing forward despite overwhelming pain. Featuring standout performances from Ryan Keberle, Sam Dillon, Quinsin Nachoff, Rachel Therrien, Jason Jackson, and others, the album stands as both an ambitious compositional achievement and a deeply human meditation on survival, community, and the courage to keep living.

**Composer/Conductor**
Migiwa Miyajima

**Trumpets & Flugelhorns**
Dan Urness, David Smith, Stuart Mack, Rachel Therrien
**Trombones**
Ryan Keberle, Jason Jackson, Evan Amoroso, Gina Benalcázar López (Bass Trombone)
**Reeds**
Ben Kono (Alto Saxophone, Soprano Saxophone, Flute)
Todd Bashore (Alto Saxophone, Flute, Clarinet)
Sam Dillon (Tenor Saxophone, Clarinet)
Quinsin Nachoff (Tenor Saxophone, Clarinet)
Carl Maraghi (Baritone Saxophone, Bass Clarinet)

**Rhythm Section**
Pete McCann (Guitar)
Martha Kato (Piano. All tracks except 6)
Migiwa Miyajima (Piano. 6 only)
Jared Beckstead-Craan (Bass)
Tim Horner (Drums)
**Actors / Voices / Vocals**
Megan Masako Haley (as Migiwa Miyajima; Vocals on 13)
Ashton Muñiz (as Akira Sato, Kazemaru Iso Chiba, Takayuki Yoshinaga)
Arielle Gonzalez (as AK, Kyohmi Takahashi, Yuko Miyajima)

1. **Intro 1 (2:46 p.m.)** 4:00
   Solos: Ryan Keberle (Trombone), Megan Masako Haley (Voice)
2. **Where Is My Home?** 8:11
   Solos: Ryan Keberle (Trombone), Tim Horner (Drums), Sam Dillon (Tenor Saxophone), Ashton Muñiz (Voice)
3. **I Live, I Talk** 9:12
   Solos: Quinsin Nachoff (Tenor Saxophone), Arielle Gonzalez (Voice)
4. **Let Me Talk About My Dream** 6:44
   Solos: Pete McCann (Guitar), Todd Bashore (Alto Saxophone), Ashton Muñiz (Voice)
5. **Intro 2 (Migiwa's Story)** 0:56
   Solos: Megan Masako Haley (Voice), Migiwa Miyajima (Piano)
6. **A Step for Tomorrow** 6:48
   Solos: Jason Jackson (Trombone), Migiwa Miyajima (Piano)
7. **Intro 3 (Takayuki's Story)** 0:33
   Solos: Ashton Muñiz (Voice), Jared Beckstead-Craan (Bass)
8. **I Will Make a Change** 7:18
   Solos: Carl Maraghi (Baritone Saxophone), Gina Benalcázar López (Bass Trombone), Martha Kato (Piano), Ashton Muñiz (Voice)
9. **Intro 4 (AK & Together for 3.11's Story)** 2:43
   Solos: Ben Kono (Flute), Arielle Gonzalez (Voice), Migiwa Miyajima (Voice)
10. **The Future of the Planted Seeds** 4:53
    Solo: Ben Kono (Flute)
11. **Life Is Good** 6:39
    Solos: Evan Amoroso (Trombone), Stuart Mack (Trumpet), Martha Kato (Piano), Tim Horner (Drums)
12. **10 Years and Counting** 6:41
    Solo: David Smith (Trumpet)
13. **Fourteen Springs** 7:12
    Solos: Megan Masako Haley (Vocal), Rachel Therrien (Trumpet)

Recorded live at
**DIZZY'S CLUB**
at Jazz at Lincoln Center
on March 17, 2025

SOUNDSPORE RECORDS

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