



Bio information: **ANGLING**

Title: **WAS IT 1984 OR 1985?** (Cuneiform Rune 3369)

Format: DIGITAL

Label: CUNEIFORM RECORDS www.cuneiformrecords.com

FILE UNDER: **ROCK / AVANT ROCK / NEW MUSIC / POST-GENRE**

Introducing ANGLING
Zeena Parkins – accordion and acoustic harp
George Cartwright – soprano saxophone
Chris Cochran – electric guitar and tapes
Fred Chalenor - bass

New York's Lower East Side in the mid-late 1980s was a boiling cauldron of explosively creative, genre-defiant music. Countless bands emerged to then sustain or devolve as musicians drawn to the scene experimented and evolved their signature sounds. **Angling**, formed 1984 / 1985 by four musicians who would soon become pillars of the NY Downtown scene, individually and in other ensembles – saxophonist **George Cartwright**, bassist **Fred Chalenor**, guitarist **Chris Cochran**, accordionist & harpist **Zeena Parkins** – was one of the most interesting of these brief-lived, early groups. Angling played two live shows and one studio recording session before its members moved on to other endeavors. In 2023, **George Cartwright**, longtime leader of the **Downtown NY band Curlew**, unearthed those recordings, resulting in this Angling release.

Cuneiform has previously released numerous albums from NYC's remarkably dynamic Downtown scene. These include the extensive studio and live catalogue of [Curlew](#), one of the Scene's most acclaimed ensembles; reissues of three albums by the post-Angling group [No Safety](#), which included two Angling members; and two post-Curlew albums by [George Cartwright](#).

Angling's members recall:

Angling was a band either in 1984 or 1985.

*Zeena was in between **News from Babel** recording projects, and was about to join **Skeleton Crew**.*

*George was in between the first and second **Curlew** recordings.*

*Fred had just come east with his band with **Myles Boisen, Face Ditch**.*

*Chris was improvising with a range of “downtown musicians” and curating shows as the **Director of NYC'S Improvisor's Network**.*

*The band **No Safety** [with **Chris** and **Zeena**] wasn't even in the planning stages yet.*

*Fred wrote many of the compositions, with some additional tunes from **Chris** and **Zeena** and a Uruguayan folk song to showcase Zeena's acoustic harp playing.*

*We rehearsed in **Chris**'s small apartment on Ludlow Street, once a week or so.*

*There were 3 names for the band that we never could come to consensus on: **CCCP, Her Hat** and **Angling**.*

We did two gigs and one recording session, which is what this recording is a composite of.

George unearthed these recordings in in 2023.