

**NEW RECORD/PRODUCTION COMPANY OBLIQSOUND
CELEBRATES LAUNCH WITH INAUGURAL RELEASE
THE OBLIQSOUND SAMPLER ON APRIL 30, 2002**

***Maverick producers Chris Brann, Riton and the Freaks to remix label's first single
"As musicians, our major goal is to create a reference point for an alternative
to commercial music" - Michele Locatelli***

Founded by Europeans **Michele Locatelli** and **Ralf Schmid**, **ObliqSound** is an independent record label/production company whose primary mission is to create commercially viable, fiercely unique "music without boundaries". "What we want to do is create a label of crossover music for all genres", says **Schmid**. "But we want to put it on a higher level." To that, **Locatelli** adds, "Crossover music not in the sense of putting a rock band with symphony orchestra or blending techno with world music samples, but something strongly rooted in a conceptual idea."

Graduates of the **New School University's** (New York City) prestigious jazz program, **Locatelli** (guitarist-composer-producer) and **Schmid** (pianist-composer-arranger-conductor) are qualified to make their vision quest a fulfilled reality. Headquarters in New York City and Munich have given **ObliqSound** rare entrée into the respective underground scenes. Cherry-picking the most cutting edge crews, **Locatelli** and **Schmid** have re-modeled their individual ciphers into a unified sound.

The six-track **ObliqSound Sampler** is a tantalizing taste of the company's developing **Instrumental Series** and **Vocal Series** albums and proves that eclecticism is it's own reward. The sampler includes **Tama's** jazz infused R&B-madrigal bop "**Felise**" (the Sampler's debut single), which **ObliqSound** plans to release dance remixes from with the help of U.S. wunderkind **Chris Brann**. **Brann's** pedigree has successfully taken him to the worlds of television music, dance, eletronica, jazz and soul. He has created lush and sublime sonic remix panoramas tempered with eclectic musical influences for the likes of **k.d. lang**, **Boney James**, **Bebel Gilberto**, **Mondo Grosso**, **Everything But The Girl**, **HBO's Sex In The City** and **Six Feet Under**, **MTV's Undressed** and **Showtime's Queer As Folk**.

The Sampler's eclecticism continues with **Flügelschlag!**'s wiggly African chant/choir/three-piano ostinato frission "**Mendiani**" followed by **Aisha Duo's** sublime vibes and marimba duet "**Beneath an Evening Sky**" The disc also highlights **Renovation Unlimited's** brilliant approach to **George Gershwin's "Summertime"** - infusing trip-hop with lush string, harmonicas provided by **Gregoire Maret (Meshell Ndegeocello)** and the blues vocals of **Valerie Troutt**."

You can listen at different levels," comments **Locatelli**. "It's alternative and sophisticated but yet the magic is that the music remains quite easy to access and enjoy."

The ObliqSound Sampler [001] available April 30, 2002 on CD.

Media contact: Stephanie Jo Klein – press@obliqsound.com 212-274-8640

New York: ObliqSound, Inc. 373 Broadway Suite F11, New York, New York 10013 T 212.274.8640 F 212.274.8641
Hamburg: ObliqSound GmbH Struenseestr. 37, D-22767 Hamburg, Germany T 49.40.32.50.79.51 F 49.40.32.50.79.52
ObliqSound and the ObliqSound logo are trademarks of ObliqSound GmbH registered worldwide