

**HARVEST GATHERING WITH STEVE COLEMAN**  
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Taken at Lake City, Michigan

NEW MUSIC SCENE: I want to share with you a bit of a secret that is known to musicians, but not to festival goers. At the end of the festival season each year, a private celebration is held near Lake City, Michigan, the annual "Harvest Gathering," now in its 9th year. Musicians from all over the Midwest (and the world) gather for three days on three stages and play music, not for attendees, but for and with each other. Perhaps 1,000 or so people find their way to it, but it is not advertised, or just enough to help musicians find it. Music goes pretty much all the time and the top organic chefs from Traverse City, Michigan come down and donate their time to serve non-stop food that has to be some of the best in the world. In fact, this very warm festival is the closest thing to the 1960s that I have experienced since then – lots of huggin' and new friends.

The Harvest Gathering was founded by Seth Bernard and is held on the Bernard farm, thanks to his father Bob Bernard. Seth and May Erlewine (my daughter) organize and put the concerts together each year.

Here are a few photos of the great jazz saxophonist Steve Coleman of MBASE fame, who brought his entire band to play at the 2008 gathering. Coleman is also a serious astrologer. That is how Steve and I hooked up. This was some jaw-dropping music folks!

I will try to post more about the Harvest Gathering as I have time, but there is a Facebook page being assembled for this venue.



Steve Coleman on alto sax and Jonathan Finlayson on trumpet have been playing tight together for many years. The music moves in unison and then all over and back, riveting to hear. So many people were there that they could not all fit into the large barn where this took place.



Jonathan Finlayson on trumpet.



Mike Allemana on jazz guitar.



Steve Coleman on alto sax.



Steve Coleman on alto sax.



Steve Coleman on alto sax.



Miles Okazaki on jazz guitar.



