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Mosaic Select: Bob Brookmeyer (MS 009)

Text from mosaicrecords.com announcing this set:

"Bill Kirchner once wrote that Bob Brookmeyer's writing and playing have "always been a totally personal mixture of the gutbucket and the cerebral." An accurate statement and a unique achievement for Brookmeyer as an artist, but it doesn't begin to address the breathtaking range of this man. When one considers the same man went head-to-head nightly with Stan Getz and Gerry Mulligan in the '50s, played a wholly original and perfect obbligato part behind Ray Charles on Come Rain Or Come Shine, recorded a two-piano album with Bill Evans that brought out the extrovert in Evans (not an easy task), strawbossed the innovative Gerry Mulligan Concert Jazz Band and composed and arranged brilliant charts like ABC Blues for the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis, here is a musician on limitless depth and scope."

Michael Cuscuna, liner notes

"A TOTALLY PERSONAL MIXTURE OF THE GUTBUCKET AND THE CEREBRAL".

Bill Kirchner's description of valve trombonist-pianist-composer-arranger Bob Brookmeyer is particularly apt for this collection. The core of this set is three all-star affairs from 1957-58 – each one a gem – on which Brookmeyer explores early New Orleans and Kansas City jazz classics. The pieces are treated not as recreations or intellectual abstractions; they are brilliantly arranged with a fresh but respectful ear and swing like hell.

On Traditionalism Revisited (made for Pacific Jazz and issued here in its entirety for the first time), Brookmeyer gathered kindred spirits among modernists - the Jimmy Giuffre 3 with Jim Hall and Ralph Pena plus drummer Dave Bailey - to explore the early jazz repertoire in new, exciting and respectful ways. Kansas City Revisited (United Artists) celebrates early Basie with Paul Quinichette, Al Cohn, Nat Pierce, Jim Hall, Addison Farmer and Osie Johnson. With Sweets Edison, Cohn, Zoot Sims, Hank Jones, Freddie Green, Eddie Jones and Charlie Persip, Brookmeyer swings Morton, Waller and Tin Pan Alley on Stretching Out (UA).

MORE RARETIES.

Completing this set are Brookmeyer's 1954 quartet session for Pacific Jazz, which has not been reissued since its 10" LP release, and a unique 1957 PJ album entitled Street Swingers which brings together the guitars of Jim Hall and Jimmy Raney with Bill Crow and Osie Johnson.

This body of work presents a modernist with an abiding respect for and understanding of what has come before and with the unique ability to apply his own voice to it. Most of this material is on CD for the first time.

Track Listing & Discography

DISC ONE

1. Liberty Belle (A1)	2:46	(Bob Brookmeyer)
2. Have You Met Miss Jones (A1)	3:32	(R. Rodgers-L. Hart)
3. Isn't It Romantic (A2)	2:35	(R. Rodgers-L. Hart)
4. Traditional Blues (A1)	2:34	(traditional)
5. Doe Eyes (A2)	3:17	(Red Mitchell)
6. Red Devil (A2)	3:18	(Red Mitchell)
7. Body And Soul (A2)	3:18	(Green-Heyman-Sour)
8. Last Chance (A2)	2:47	(Bob Brookmeyer)
9. Arrowhead (C)	6:58	(Jim Hall)
10. Street Swingers (C)	6:19	(Bob Brookmeyer)
11. Hot Buttered Noodling (C)	6:02	(Jimmy Raney)
12. Musicale Du Jour (C)	8:48	(Bob Brookmeyer)
13. Raney Day (C)	5:24	(Jim Hall)
14. Jupiter (C)	5:04	(Jimmy Raney)

DISC TWO

1. Louisiana (B1)	5:27	(Johnson-Schafer-Razaf)
2. Santa Claus Blues (B1)	5:43	(G. Kahn-C. Straight)
3. Truckin' (B2)	7:27	(R. Bloom-T. Koehler)
4. Some Sweet Day (B1)	4:46	(Jackson-Rose-Olman)
5. Sweet Like This (B1)	4:03	(K. Oliver-D. Nelson)
6. Jada (B1)	3:48	(Bob Carlton)
7. Don't Be That Way (B1)	4:59	(Sampson-Goodman-Parish)
8. Honeysuckle Rose (B2)	6:05	(F. Waller-A. Razaf)
9. Brook's Blues (B2)	4:14	(Bob Brookmeyer)
10. Slow Freight (B2)	8:49	(Bob Brookmeyer)
11. The Sheik Of Araby (B1)	5:01	(Snyder-Wheeler-Smith)

DISC THREE

1. Jumpin' At The Woodside (D)	7:59	(Count Basie)
2. A Blues (What's On Your Mind) (D)	5:05	(Clarence Henry Miller)
3. Blue And Sentimental (D)	6:53	(Basie-Livingston-David)
4. Doggin' Around (D)	8:39	(E. Battle-H. Evans)
5. Moten Swing (D)	10:12	(B. Noten-B. Moten)
6. Trav'lin' Light (D)	3:32	(Mundy-Young-Mercer)
7. Stretching Out (E)	6:07	(Bob Brookmeyer)
8. Now Will You Be Good (E)	5:27	(Pease-Terker-Jentes)
9. Pennies From Heaven (E)	6:15	(A. Johnston-J. Burke)

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| 10. King Porter Stomp (E) | 4:38 | (Morton-Burke-Robin) |
| 11. Ain't Misbehavin' (E) | 6:54 | (Waller-Razaf-Brooks) |
| 12. Bee Kay (E) | 6:39 | (Bill Potts) |
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(A) Bob Brookmeyer, valve trombone; John Williams, piano; Bill Anthony (A1), Red Mitchell (A2), bass; Frank Isola, drums.

Recorded at the Van Gelder Studio, Hackensack, NJ on July 5 (A1) and July 7 (A2), 1954

Recording engineer: Rudy Van Gelder.

Produced by Bob Brookmeyer.

Originally issued on THE BOB BROOKMEYER QUARTET (Pacific Jazz 10" LP 16).

(B) Bob Brookmeyer, valve trombone, piano; Jimmy Giuffre, clarinet, tenor sax, baritone sax; Jim Hall, guitar; Joe Benjamin (B1), Ralph Pena (B2), bass, Dave Bailey, drums.

Recorded at Coastal Studios, New York City on July 13 (B1) and July 16 (B2), 1957.

Engineer: Al Schmitt.

Produced by Richard Bock.

"Brook's Blues" and the full version of "Slow Freight" originally issued on BOB BROOKMEYER (Crown CST 318). "The Sheik Of Araby" originally issued on THE PLAYBOY JAZZ ALLSTARS (Playboy PB-1959). All others originally issued as TRADITIONALISM REVISITED by Bob Brookmeyer (Pacific Jazz PJ-1233).

(C) Bob Brookmeyer, valve trombone, piano; Jim Hall, Jimmy Raney, guitar; Bill Crow, bass; Osie Johnson, drums.

Recorded at Coastal Studios, New York City on December 13 & 16, 1957

Engineer: Al Schmitt.

Produced by Richard Bock.

Originally issued as STREET SWINGERS (World Pacific PJ-1239).

(D) Bob Brookmeyer, valve trombone; Al Cohn, Paul Quinichette, tenor sax; Nat Pierce, piano; Jim Hall, guitar; Addison Farmer, bass; Osie Johnson, drums; Big Miller, vocal (on "A Blues" and "Trav'liv' Light").

Recorded at Olmsted Studios, New York City on October 23, 1958.

Recording engineer: Dick Olmsted.

Produced by Jack Lewis.

Originally issued as KANSAS CITY REVISITED (United Artists UAS-5008).

(E) Harry Sweets Edison, trumpet, Bob Brookmeyer, valve trombone; Zoot Sims, tenor sax; Al Cohn, tenor sax, baritone sax; Hank Jones, piano; Freddie Green, guitar; Eddie Jones, bass; Charlie Persip, drums.

Recorded at Nola Penthouse Studio, New York City on December 27, 1958

Recording engineer: Tommy Nola.

Produced by Jack Lewis.

Arranged by Al Cohn (“Pennies From Heaven”), Bill Potts (“Bee Kay”) and Bob Brookmeyer (all others).

Originally issued on STRETCHING OUT (United Artists UAS-5023).

Produced for release by Michael Cuscuna

Transferred in 24-bit and mastered by Ron McMaster.

The last tune on disc two and all of disc three are stereo.

Note: The occasional instances of distortion are in the original master sources.

Special thanks to Tony Rounce, Jim Harrod and the Institute Of Jazz Studies.

Masters appear courtesy of Blue Note Records, a division of Capitol Records, Inc.

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Page history:

1. Page completed and converted on December 21st, 2009 by Volkher Hofmann.

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