



Low Standards

STEVE SHAPIRO & PAT BERGESON

“Steve Shapiro is a legitimate triple-threat musician.” — *MIX magazine*

New York, NY – Sons of Sound proudly announces the February 22, 2005 release of *Low Standards*, a group project led by vibraphonist **Steve Shapiro** and guitarist **Pat Bergeson**, featuring vocal sensation **Annie Sellick**. The band is rounded out by **Scott Kreitzer** (Peter Cincotti) on tenor saxophone, **Doug Weiss** (Al Foster) on bass, and **Jeff Williams** on drums.

Conceived by Shapiro and Bergeson, *Low Standards* is a relaxed session of instrumental and vocal jazz with the laid-back vibe of lounge music, achieved through instrumental technique, without remixing or studio gimmickry.

Steve Shapiro, a vibist, producer, arranger, and programmer, has recorded with Phil Collins, Whitney Houston, Ornette Coleman, Pat Martino, Regina Belle, and Spyro Gyra. He appeared on Steely Dan’s *Two Against Nature*, which received four Grammy Awards, including Album-of-the-Year. He is currently working on television scores for A&E and Fox and on the upcoming Disney feature, *Chicken Little*, having completed promotional work for *The Incredibles*.

Pat Bergeson has toured with Chet Atkins, Shelby Lynne, and Lyle Lovett. A versatile guitarist and harmonica player, he is known for session work with Lovett, Alison Krauss, Dolly Parton, Bill Frisell, Suzy Bogguss, Bill Evans, Peter Frampton, and Michael McDonald. He was named one of Chet Atkins’ favorite guitarists in the October, 2001 issue of *Vintage Guitar* magazine, and is featured on a few of the master’s recordings. Pat will be profiled in an early-2005 issue of *Fingerstyle Guitar Player* magazine.

Low Standards combines familiar repertoire with original writing. Instrumental tracks include a dreamy version Ellington’s “Reflections In D” and a snappy rendering of Wes Montgomery’s “Four On Six.” Shapiro’s vibes set the band’s retro-cool sound, as he contributes two of the collection’s definitive instrumental tracks: “End Of The Road,” a slinky waltz that Sam Spade might have chosen when he danced with dames, and “Small Miracles,” a bossa straight from the beaches of ‘60s Rio de Janeiro. Bergeson contributes warm, tasteful jazz guitar playing as well as the laid-back ballad, “Please Be Early.” Annie Sellick lends her vocal talents to four standards,

including Irving Berlin's "How Deep Is The Ocean," Raye and DePaul's "You Don't Know What Love Is," Mancini's "The Days Of Wine & Roses," Adair and Dennis' "Everything Happens To Me," and a cover of Jackson Browne's "My Opening Farewell." She also sings her own "Love Killing Lies," a track she co-wrote with Bergeson.

Recently profiled in the June 2004 issue of *DownBeat*, **Annie Sellick** has earned a devoted following in Nashville and receives rave reviews in the local media. Having honed her skills at the Nashville Jazz Workshop, Sellick enjoyed a four-year association with guitarist Roland Gresham's trio and has since been featured regularly at Nashville's main jazz venues, including a sold-out performance with the Nashville Symphony. Her first record of jazz standards, *Stardust On My Sleeve*, is a local favorite, while her follow-up, *No Greater Thrill*, features the organ work of Joe DeFrancesco as well as Bergeson on guitar.

A Florida native, **Scott Kreitzer** joined Ira Sullivan's band while a student at the University of Miami. He has also studied with Joe Lovano and Bob Mintzer and received a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts to study with Eddie Daniels. With his quartet of Harvie Swartz on bass, Marc Copeland on piano and Bill Stewart on drums, Scott won the 1988 Hennessy Jazz Search Contest. The band opened the Playboy Jazz Festival that year; a review by Leonard Feather of the *LA Times* declared Scott "a talent far beyond his years." Compared by Peter Watrous of the *New York Times* to Dexter Gordon and Stanley Turrentine, Scott is presently touring the world with the Peter Cincotti Quartet and has three solo records to his credit.

Bassist **Doug Weiss** has been gigging with Al Foster and Walt Weiskopf, and teaching at the New School in Manhattan. Drummer **Jeff Williams** cut his teeth backing Stan Getz, Dave Liebman and Joe Lovano; he made his headlining debut in 1994 with *Coalescence*, recording *Jazzblues* the following year, receiving a four-star review in *AMG* from David R. Adler.

Low Standards is Steve Shapiro's second CD as a leader for Sons of Sound. The first, *Xylophobia* (2001), features Marc Johnson on bass, Danny Gottlieb on drums, Tim Ries on saxophones, and Pat Bergeson on guitar. It is available on iTunes and other digital music services.

Sons of Sound is an independent jazz label founded in 1997, with the goal of bringing fine instrumental jazz to a younger audience. The label supports music education through The Commission Project, a nonprofit based in Rochester, NY, through which it also underwrites residencies at Princeton University, including Bob Mintzer in 2003-2004 and Jimmy Heath in 2004-2005.

For additional information see the label's website at <http://sonsofsound.com>. For more about The Commission Project, see <http://tcp-music.org/> and <http://swingnjazz.org>.

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