

## Jeff Oster - Released (2006)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 16 October 2018 12:21 -

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1 *Fool's Gold* 2 *Big Sur* 3 *Final Approach* 4 *Behind The Veil* 5 *Released* 6 *Matt's Mood* 7 *As I Live And Breathe* 8 *Haleakala* 9 *At Last* Jeff Oster - Flugelhorn, Moog Synthesizer, Percussion, Synthesizer, Trumpet, Vocals Philip Aaberg - Piano, Synthesizer Will Ackerman - Guitar, Guitar (Acoustic), Guitar (Electric) Taylor Barefoot - Drum Programming, Guitar (Acoustic), Guitar (Electric) Charlie Bisharat - Violin Bryan Carrigan - Drum Programming, Percussion, Programming Happy Rhodes - Vocals

As one of the few trumpet/flugelhorn artists working in ambient terrain, Jeff Oster draws from a rich background of classically trained, jazz tinged horn study, mixed with contemporary electronica and loop based electro-orchestral bed tracks. This combination of flesh and circuitry, brass and silicon, breath and beats, has resulted in a sound like few others on the new age/ambient scene today. ---amazon.com

There are a number of things I admire about Jeff Oster. Jeff is forty-eight years old. He could be a guy who, after a few drinks at the country club, starts talking about how close he came to living his dream of making music.

Jeff didn't let go of that dream. Jeff chose to make his first record at forty-eight with a commitment and focus that would be a credit to anyone of any age. I admire that about him.

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Jeff's musicianship is steeped in jazz. He cares about chops and knows what good playing is and strives successfully to be that kind of a player. I admire that about him. I admire the fact that he leaves work, comes home to his wonderful family, puts them to bed and starts mining the Internet for sampled drum sounds, guitar sounds; anything that he can put together to create a bed for his music.

I'm amazed that a guy his age is so aware and so adept at borrowing the tools of today's very young musicians to create a hybrid of jazz and contemporary sounds that results in something unique.

I love it that he can't let go of the acoustic world; that he can use sampled drums, but wants to play his horn unaffected into a Neumann mic; that he also needs the sounds of acoustic guitar, piano, the human voice and a warm bass to create the dream he hears. A true synthesis.

I have a long history of involvement in instrumental music. I produced George Winston and Michael Hedges among a long list of very well known players. There are a million players in Electronica. There are a million Michael Hedges clones and two million George Winston clones.

Jeff is the first player to bring horns into this realm of contemporary instrumental music. You could point to Mark Isham and Chris Botti (both musicians we were involved with at Windham Hill) as comparisons, but Jeff really has his own niche that he's carved out of a brilliant synthesis of influences and sounds. This guy is the real deal.

I've seen careers take off and recognize when music creates a buzz almost without effort and that's what happens when people hear Jeff Oster's music. ---Will Ackerman, jeffoster.com

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