

Joe Pass & John Pisano – Duets (1991)

Wpisany przez bluesever

Sobota, 11 Wrzesień 2010 13:50 - Zmieniony Czwartek, 11 Grudzień 2014 20:00

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1. *Alone Together* 2. *Baileywick* 3. *S'il Vous Plait* 4. *Lonely Woman* 5. *Nina's Birthday Song* 6. *You Were Meant For Me* 7. *Blues For The Wee Folk* 8. *Satie* 9. *For Jim H.* 10. *Back To Back* Joe Pass, John Pisano (guitar)

Joe Pass did the near-impossible. He was able to play up-tempo versions of bop tunes such as "Cherokee" and "How High the Moon" unaccompanied on the guitar. Unlike Stanley Jordan, Pass used conventional (but superb) technique, and his Virtuoso series on Pablo still sounds remarkable decades later. Joe Pass had a false start in his career. He played in a few swing bands (including Tony Pastor's) before graduating from high school, and was with Charlie Barnet for a time in 1947. But after serving in the military, Pass became a drug addict, serving time in prison and essentially wasting a decade. He emerged in 1962 with a record cut at Synanon, made a bit of a stir with his For Django set, recorded several other albums for Pacific Jazz and World Pacific, and performed with Gerald Wilson, Les McCann, George Shearing, and Benny Goodman (1973). However, in general Pass maintained a low profile in Los Angeles until he was signed by Norman Granz to his Pablo label. 1973's Virtuoso made him a star and he recorded very prolifically for Pablo, unaccompanied, with small groups, on duo albums with Ella Fitzgerald, and with such masters as Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Oscar Peterson, Milt Jackson, and Dizzy Gillespie. Pass remained very active up until his death from cancer - *All Music Guide*.

John Pisano has been recognized as one of the nation's finest jazz guitarists since first emerging on the scene in the mid-Fifties. Even if his name doesn't immediately ring a bell, odds are that you've heard his guitar work. Although he had occasionally stepped forward to lead his own groups, for years his "comfort zone" was the background, where he'd supported some of music's biggest names, including Herb Alpert, Sergio Mendes, Peggy Lee, Burt Bacharach, Frank Sinatra, and Barbra Streisand. In the last several years, however, Pisano has assumed the leader's role, releasing a series of Pablo dates remarkable for their beauty and musical camaraderie. Among Friends (1995) was the first, featuring him in duet settings with six of the

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instrument's most talented players: Lee Ritenour, Phil Upchurch, Ron Affif, Dori Caymmi, Ted Greene, and the late Joe Pass, with whom John had worked extensively for three decades.

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