



## CD Release: In A Midnight Moon January 2004

Jeff Andrew Simpson has been delivering the message of jazz through his performance, compositions and arrangements, and his voice as an educator for almost 15 years. It is no surprise then, that this outstanding compilation of music is an authentic representation of the personal and artistic development of a truly gifted jazz musician. "In a Midnight Moon" provides a wonderful and exciting confirmation in his first outing as a recording artist.

Growing up as the son of Jazz DJ Jack Simpson laid the foundation for Jeff's career, when at the age of 10, he met musicians such as **Ira Sullivan**, **Howard McGhee** and **Dizzy Gillespie**. Simpson focused on music, jazz in particular, taking up the saxophone. He attended the University of N. Florida studying under jazz greats **Rich Matteson**, **Bunky Green** and **Bill Prince**, and received his Masters degree in jazz composition at the University of S. Fla. under **Chuck Owen**. He soon carved his niche as a premier performer with his broad tradition filled sound on tenor saxophone and his haunting nuance on the flute. Jeff's concept of playing jazz was formed and ingrained through countless performances by jazz legend Ira Sullivan. Starting in jam sessions with his mentor, he suddenly found himself in the role of leader and was hooked. He found great success leading jazz groups at major concerts and festivals throughout Florida. Currently living in Atlanta, Ga., Jeff is the band director at St. Jude School and continues to perform in and around the city.

Here he has brought together an impressive group of musicians that create a sound both energetic and moving. Pianist **Bill O'Connell** has performed with Mongo Santamaria, Sonny Rollins, Dave Valentin, Gato Barbiera and more recently with Jon Lucien. Trumpeter **Marcus Printup**, a 10 year veteran with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, has four CD's to his credit and is considered one of the foremost performers on his instrument. Bassist **Lincoln Goines** has a long list of credits including Eliane Elias, Dave Valentin and most recently Mike Sterns. **Kim Plainfield** on drums has performed with some of the best players in the world and continues his teaching ventures at Berklee. On two of the tracks Simpson has added the brilliant and much sought after **Romero Lubambo**, and percussionist **Roland Guerrero**, which adds just the right spice to this diverse collection of tunes. Internationally renowned vocalist **Allan Harris** rounds out the cast with his beautifully rich rendering of a sure to be standard as you will hear on "Daddy's Lullaby".

Here's a brief summary of the tunes:

- 1 **Wake up** – a catchy "swunk" (mix of funk and swing) tune that jumps off the CD **4:40**
- 2 **Off the Border** – a contemporary Latin that features flute and muted trumpet **5:09**
- 3 **I've Told Ev'ry Little Star** – a swingin' straight ahead version of an old standard **4:12**
- 4 **Last Day** – Jazz/rock, featuring great solos by Simpson, Printup, O'Connell and Plainfield **7:12**
- 5 **Daddy's Lullaby** – Allan Harris sings with the love of a father on this ballad **4:29**
- 6 **Penumbra** – Featuring Romero Lubambo on Brazilian guitar, Simpson on flute and O'Connell on piano **8:01**
- 7 **Blues in the Midnight Moon** – Swingin' minor blues, a la W. Shorter kicked off by Goines' Bass **5:27**
- 8 **Evanescence** – Introspective jazz waltz with beautiful playing by Simpson on tenor **6:11**
- 9 **The Teacher** – Peaceful and hypnotic bossa featuring Brazilian guitar, flute and O'Connell's piano **5:31**
- 10 **Hang Time** – in the pop vein, featuring Simpson's Alto sax and Printup's trumpet **5:17**
- 11 **To Know You're There** – Cool bossa-nova w/ soprano sax and muted trumpet **6:01**
- 12 **Yeah!** – Jazz/rock, a la Lee Morgan with a surprise "Yeah!" at the end **6:08**

Jeff Andrew Simpson is available for performance and you can contact him at:  
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