



Bob Mintzer Big Band

Homage to Count Basie

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When one thinks of Count Basie, his orchestra, and the music his organization left us, several words come to mind. Positive, uplifting, swinging, fun, spontaneous, and joyous are but a few. His legacy has influenced not only big band music, but also all of jazz by way of the stellar musicians he kept and the great stable of arrangers who wrote for the band. People like Lester Young, Eddie “Lockjaw” Davis, Frank Foster, Thad Jones, Sammy Nestico, Ernie Wilkins, and Neal Hefti have had such a huge

influence on my musicianship. I offer this homage to Count Basie, his music, and all the great artists who were spun off from his band.

There are 5 tunes commonly associated with the Basie band on the disc. In arranging these 5 songs I went and listened to as many recorded versions as I could find, and then picked up my pencil. I stuck fairly close to what I had heard in writing the arrangements, trying only to make room for the wonderful players in the band, and to perhaps slightly “Mintzerize” the songs.

The remaining 3 songs are original compositions. Two of them are clearly in the Basie tradition (*Havin’ Some Fun* and *Lester Jumps Out*). The third song is an idea that resulted from superimposing the Basie sensibility on an R and B

groove: what might have happened if Sly Stone and the Count teamed up.

I think this is one of the most fun recording experiences I have ever encountered, in great part due to the material, but also because of the great musicians in the band and the comfort ability factor from having worked with Tom Jung for the last 16 years. I hope you feel some of the positive and uplifting energy we felt when you listen to the music. Have some fun!

Special thanks to Tom, Jean and Paul Jung, to the musicians, who always play so great, to Stan Garber at Selmer Co., Jeff Jarvis, Kendor Music, the D'addario Co. (Van Doren Reeds), to Carla and Paul Mintzer, who endured my incessant sitting at the piano to get the music written.

— **Bob Mintzer**

The Band

Saxophones

Lawrence Feldman & Pete Yellin
(alto, clarinet & flute)

Scott Robinson & Bob Mintzer
(tenor, clarinet & flute)

Roger Rosenberg
(baritone)

Trumpets/Flugelhorns

Bob Millikan

Byron Stripling

Scott Wendholt

Michael Phillip Mossman

Trombones

Michael Davis

Keith O'Quinn

Larry Farrell

Dave Taylor (bass)

Piano

Phil Markowitz

Bass

Dennis Irwin

Guitar

James Chirillo

Drums

John Riley

Brian Brake
on "Home Basie"

1. Havin' Some Fun (7:54) B. Mintzer

Soloists: Bob Mintzer (tenor sax) & Roger Rosenberg (baritone sax)

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2. April In Paris (6:04) V. Duke & E. Harburg

Soloist: Phil Markowitz (piano) © Kay Duke Music & Glocca Morra Music Corp. (ASCAP)

3. One O'Clock Jump (11:14) C. Basie

Soloists: Phil Markowitz (piano), Scott Robinson (tenor sax), Byron Stripling (trumpet), Larry Farrell (trombone), Pete Yellin (alto sax) & Roger Rosenberg (baritone sax)

4. Lester Jumps Out (9:17) B. Mintzer

Soloists: Phil Markowitz (piano), Bob Mintzer (tenor sax), Scott Robinson (tenor sax), Scott Wendholt (trumpet) & Dennis Irwin (bass)

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5. Cute (5:55) N. Hefti

Soloists: Scott Wendholt (trumpet), Scott Robinson (tenor sax) & Michael Davis (trombone)

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6. Shinny Stockings (7:41) F. Foster

Soloists: Byron Stripling (trumpet), Keith O'Quinn (trombone), & Phil Markowitz (piano)

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7. Home Basie (4:09) B. Mintzer

Soloist: Bob Mintzer (tenor sax)

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8. Lil' Darlin' (8:45) N. Hefti

Soloists: Michael Phillip Mossman (trumpet) & Larry Farrell (trombone)

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Recorded live to 2-channel DSD (Direct Stream Digital) by Tom Jung,
assisted by Mark Conese, on May 16 & 17, 2000 at Ambient Recording, Stamford, CT.

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Produced by Bob Mintzer and Tom Jung

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