

FROM ORIGINAL ANALOG MASTER



BRIAN TORFF

Jim Roberts, Piano

MANHATTAN
HOEDOWN

DSD

Direct Stream Digital

DXD

Digital eXtreme Definition

MANHATTAN HOEDOWN

BRIAN TORFF BASS

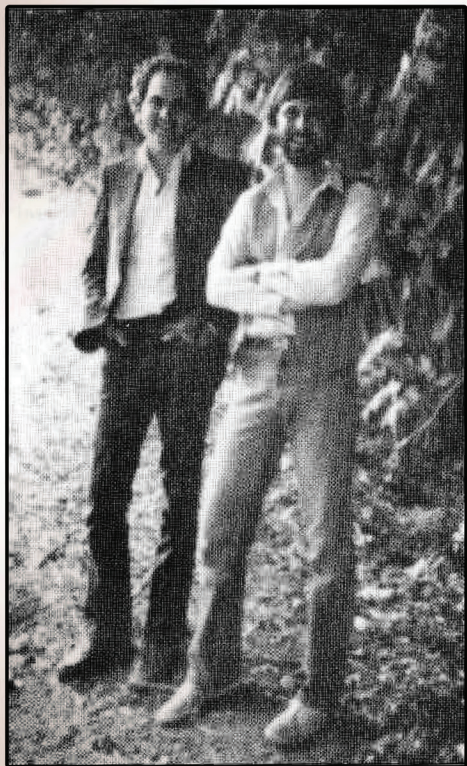
JIM ROBERTS PIANO

"There is no one who plays bass like Brian Torff," stated music critic Ifan Payne. "Combining crystalline clarity, superb intonation, tempo, and an overriding sense of joy, he sparkles almost effortlessly."

Brian Torff has performed with Cleo Laine, Erroll Garner, Mary Lou Williams, Marian McPartland, and toured with Stephane Grappelli. His lengthy association with pianist George Shearing resulted in many network and PBS television appearances and a Grammy-winning album with Mel Torme. He has performed with the Chicago Symphony, Boston Pops, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Pittsburgh Symphony.

Now on his own, Brian Torff teams up with the brilliant New York pianist, composer and arranger Jim Roberts, who has worked and recorded with well-known bandsmen such as Buddy Tate, Cecil Payne, and Illinois Jacquet. He has recorded his own album, "Here Comes The Sun."

Torff and Roberts show deep musical empathy in this January, 1983 recording. They open with an exciting and unique arrangement of Weather Report's *Birdland*, followed by Torff's beautiful composition *The Heather and Jan*, and the duo wanders an ever-changing rhythmic path throughout Brazil '79, a tune, also by Torff, that was not included on the original LP. Brian uses a drumstick on his bass strings on the sizzling *Big Noise From Winnetka* and there are two haunting classical



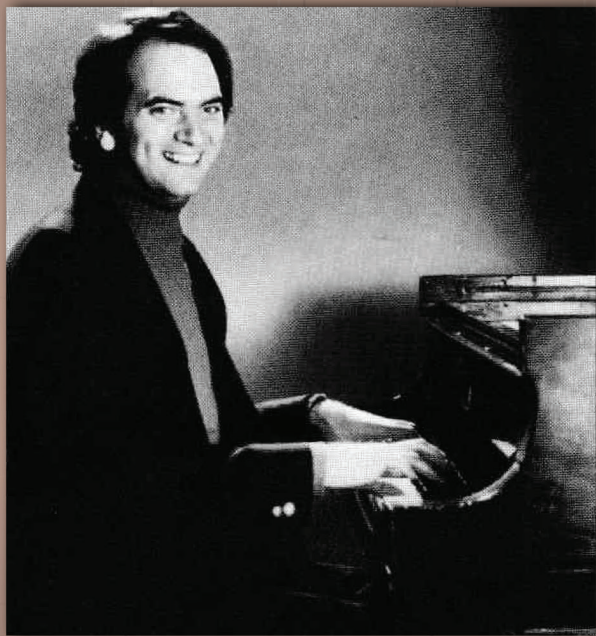
Roberts & Torff

themes – the familiar *Pachelbel Canon* and a stunning *Trois Gymnopedie*, by French composer Erik Satie, with a quote from Rodgers and Hart's *It Never Entered My Mind*. Torff's extraordinary use of harmonics has become his trademark. Jim Roberts shows his total musicianship on his romping tune *Gotcha*, a show stopper in the group's live performances. The album closes with Torff and Roberts steaming through the original *Manhattan Hoedown*.

Brian Torff seems destined to bring an instrument hundreds of years old into contemporary focus, and this recording is just the beginning.

– H. CAITLIN









THE 2xHD MASTERING PROCESS



The 2xHD Fusion Mastering System: In the constant evolution of its proprietary mastering process, 2xHD has progressed to a new phase called 2xHD FUSION, integrating the finest analog, with state-of-the-art digital technology.

The mastering chain consists of a selection of high-end vacuum tube equipment. For the recordings on this album, the original 1/4" 15 ips NagraMaster curve, NAB or CCIR master tapes were played on a Nagra-T tape recorder, modified with high-end tube playback electronics, wired with OCC silver cable from the playback head direct to a Nick Doshi tube head preamplifier. The Nagra T, with its four direct drive motors, two pinch rollers and a tape tension head, has one of the best transports ever made. A custom-built carbon fiber head block and a head damping electronic system permit 2xHD FUSION to obtain a better resolution and 3D imaging.

The resulting signal is then transferred into high resolution formats by recording it in DSD using a custom 2xHD Technologies A to D converter. All analog and digital cables that are used are state of the art Siltech. The 2xHD FUSION mastering system is powered by a super capacitor power supply, using a new technology that lowers the digital noise found in the lowest level of the spectrum. A vacuum tube NAGRA HD DAC X is used as a reference digital playback converter in order to A and B with the original analog master tape, permitting the fusion of the warmth of analog with the refinement of digital.

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Pure Emotion

BRIAN TORFF MANHATTAN HOEDOWN

- 1. MANHATTAN HOEDOWN** Brian Torff 3:46
- 2. THE HEATHER AND JAN** Brian Torff 4:53
- 3. BIG NOISE FROM WINNETKA** Bob Haggart 4:03
- 4. PATCHELBEL CANNON** 3:38
- 5. GOTCHA** Jim Roberts 6:23
- 6. LOVE IS HERE TO STAY** George Gershwin, Ira Gershwin 6:02
- 7. MEDLEY: TROIS GYMNOPEDIE** Erik Satie 5:02
IT NEVER ENTERED MY MIND Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart
- 8. AFRICAINE** Claude Boling 6:14
- 9. BIRDLAND** Joe Zawinul 6:25

BRIAN TORFF: Bass, with delay, chorus and phrase effects

JIM ROBERTS: Piano

Recorded in concert on January 30, 1983

at Union Church, Hinsdale, Illinois

Recording engineer: Gerry LeCompte

Produced by George H. buck, Jr.

Production Coordinator: Wendell Echols

Jim Roberts plays Steinway pianos exclusively

2xHD Mastering by René Laflamme

2xHD Executive Producer: André Perry

Album cover photo: Mark Leet

Other photos: Janel L. Torff (duo) and Ira Mazer (Roberts)

Text: H. Caitlin

Artwork: André Perry • Graphics: Sylvie Labelle