

GABRIEL MARK HASSELBAICH 2018

Gabriel has mad skills on trumpet, flute, trombone, and vocals, and is adept at mainstream, contemporary, and New Orleans style jazz and blues, with a commanding presence and strong stage show. He draws from his 13 cd critically acclaimed releases and tours, and his 2018 tour de force MidCentury Modern Vol. 1 shines because of that. He has had 9 Billboard hits and a long stay on JazzWeek charts, as well as a JUNO Award and the 2011 Album of the Year Award for his album Told Ya So. He has spent more weeks on the Billboard contemporary charts than any other Canadian artist. No one has this unique instrument combination under their belt like Gabriel, and no one can combine so much relatable music content (live or recorded) without artifice or pandering. MidCentury Modern Vol. 1 is (at this July 2018 writing) simultaneously climbing the JazzWeek mainstream charts AND the Billboard contemporary jazz charts, a feat so rare that prior instances for any artist can be counted on one hand.

www.GabrielJazz.com

He has recorded and/or performed with Powder Blues (seminal member), Lowell Fulson, Little Richard, Ben E King, Long John Baldry, Mary Wells, John Lee Hooker, John Denver, and has had a long touring, recording, and producing relationship with Michael Bublé, but chooses to move the jazz dialog forward with his own material in a jazzy, funky, and smooth vein. He performs under his own name at major festivals like New Orleans Jazz Fest, Chandler Jazz Fest, JVC Jazz Fest, TD Vancouver Jazz Fest, Kuala Lumpur Jazz Fest, Maui Jazz Fest, Montreux, North Sea, and records and performs with artists such as Jeff Lorber, Chuck Loeb, Brian Bromberg, Paul Brown, Bob Baldwin, Bob James, etc. Gabriel has also performed in the home of Bill Gates, for the President of Singapore (in Singapore!), at Expo 86 (Vancouver) and Expo 88 (Brisbane), and was featured at the Beijing Olympics.

MIDCENTURY MODERN VOL. 1

(From the Artist):

I thought about getting some well-known reviewer to write these liner notes but decided to just tell my story...

This is an exciting project for me, because I was able to assemble my dream team. Besides the recognizable and prolific talents of saxists Ernie Watts and Cory Weeds, I was able to gather my long time friends and world class musicians Miles Black (piano), Laurence Mollerup (bass), and Joel Fountain (drums). Adding to the proceedings are Mike Taylor and Olaf deShield on a couple of tunes.

Jazz is in my blood, and I am sure I will die clutching my horn to my chest. I've been on this path for most of my life, which really started in 3rd-grade summer band. That year we recorded a vinyl record as a fundraiser, and there the die was cast. My music teachers were all working jazz musicians and somehow I caught the jazz bug, and it fueled the fire in my belly that stuck with me all these years. I know it is a cliché, but I didn't choose jazz, it chose me.

As a preteen and teen I'd listen under the bedsheets to late night jazz broadcasts from New York, Chicago, and St Louis. By age 14 I was emulating what I had been hearing, playing semi-professionally in restaurants, lounges, and Battle of the Band competitions. After high school, I hit the road, performing throughout the Midwest playing mostly R&B and Jazz, and getting my schooling from older musicians who were kind enough to take me under their collective wing. I started playing the flute around that time, searching for another sound to add to my creative toolbag, and I put in some serious time on both horns. I had a good five year run as a seminal member of the award-winning Powder Blues, received gold and platinum album awards, and toured Europe, the US, and every nook and cranny of Canada.


Trumpeters are often one of the last to get hired, so I took matters into my own hands and began to develop bandleader and promotional skills to create what is now called a 'brand'. My interest in audio, graphics and video developed alongside my musical skills, so recording projects became sort of a one-stop cottage industry for me to express myself without having to rely on major record labels and music managers. In the end I developed a large catalog and own all my master recordings, unlike many major label artists, whose product is unavailable or can't be promoted for contractual reasons.

My discography includes two mainstream JazzWeek charting albums, but most have been contemporary jazz projects that have garnered quite a few Billboard hits. I always strive for strong, lyrical and succinct jazz content in whatever styles I pursue, and I choose sidemen that feel that way, too. It is all just jazz, and if done with savvy and skill, it rings true for any listener. Reviews: www.GabrielJazz.com/Reviews.htm

That brings me to the present. Although I spend most of my time in Vancouver, I also work out of Phoenix and New Orleans where I have residences. Arizona has a few pockets of jazz activity (and some great internet jazz station gurus), but the influence of the French Quarter in NOLA unleashed a previously untapped creative flow in my jazz vision, which is evident here.

MidCentury Modern is a nod to the magic and passion of the classic jazz, cars, architecture, and movies of the mid 20th century. Except for a few originals, I chose timeless crossover songs from my most influential trumpet artists.

This album is the 'complete me', a seamless melding of straight ahead, contemporary, and NOLA styles- a trifecta of jazz where the sum is greater than the parts! ~ GMH



The album cover features a black and white photograph of a man in a dark suit playing a trumpet. He is standing in a grand, classic interior with a large, ornate staircase and a round table with a vase of flowers. The text 'MidCentury MODERN Volume 1' is overlaid on the left side of the image. A QR code is located in the top right corner. The photo credit 'photo: JL Fuoco Photography' is at the bottom right of the image area.

MidCentury
MODERN
Volume 1

photo: JL Fuoco Photography

A newly reimagined collection of midcentury classics from award winning, Billboard charting hornmeister
Gabriel Mark Hasselbach
featuring Ernie Watts, Cory Weeds, Miles Black, and more