

Gapplegate Guitar and Bass Blog

Grego Applegate Edwards Blogs on Guitarists, Bassists, Musicians & Music

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Grego Applegate Edwards writes this column.

The Gapplegate Guitar and Bass Blog covers music

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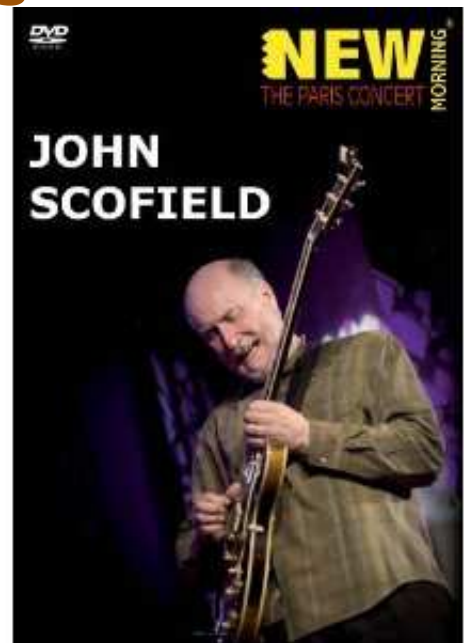
Tuesday, January 11, 2011

John Scofield Sounds Terrific On "New Morning" DVD

I am afraid I am guilty. I am guilty of taking guitarist John Scofield for granted. That is, I WAS until I checked out his new DVD *New Morning: The Paris Concert* (Inakustik 6478-1). I've always thought of him as a very good,

important stylist in the rock-funk-fusion mode, and of course he is that. The DVD, a long set with his quartet live at the New Morning club in Paris last year, lays out, song for song, the case for Sco' as the *complete* jazz soloist.

First off, the quartet. They are in the pocket. They get a giant kick in the butt from drummer Bill Stewart, who swings like a daemon, with the kind of kicking accents Elvin Jones and Jack DeJohnette did and do so well, only it's Bill's personal amalgam of what can be done. His bass drum and ride cymbal work hard throughout, putting the swing into high gear. Bassist Ben Stewart lays into that pocket too. The



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releases of interest to guitarists, bassists and other creative people. It is also for the music lover who does not play but instead forms the core audience musicians most love. You are in the inner circle of the "true listeners." If you care about what you hear and want to know more about what is out there, you are the person I have in mind as I write these postings. If music isn't an important part of your life this blog is probably not for you.

All kinds of music will be coming up on these pages: jazz and rock of all sorts, modern classical, world music, and you name it.

This site has become the primary guitar-bass blog for Gapplegate. The blog now found at www.gapplegate.com/musicalblog.html it has become its supplement. You should think of the two blogs as different pages of the same publication. Because that's what they are.

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two together make for a formidable team! Relative newcomer pianist-organist Michael Eckroth drives and solos with taste and fire and makes for a great foil to the Sco' presence.

Next the pieces. You get bop standards like "Steeplechase" and "Woody "N You" plus originals that have modern connotations, some rock-funk played with fire, some movingly poignant balladry and a soundscape feature for the more electric side of Scofield.

The man of the hour is most definitely John S. He gets a beautiful electric bluesy tone, plays changes like he was born to it, and brings out the full dimensions of who he is as a guitarist. As you watch and listen over the more-than-two-hours of the DVD, it becomes increasingly clear that Sco' really has it. And his band makes the kinetics that much more supercharged.

This is a wonderful disk. Absolutely recommended! Encore!

Posted by Gapplegate at 3:37 AM

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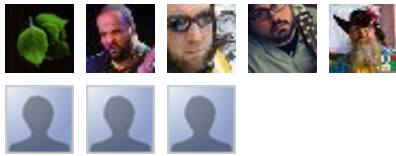
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About Me



Grego Applegate
Edwards

I've spent my life making and listening to music, editing, writing and trying to put food on the table. I've gone to music schools (Berklee College of Music, Contemporary School of Music), gotten advanced degrees in various related subjects (New York University, University of Chicago), written novels and been a working stiff like you. The rest is cannon fodder for those who steal identities, isn't it? Oh yes, I also write for Cadence, a periodical covering jazz and improv music. I run a guitar shop too.

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