



'Beautiful Noise,' Jeff Healey and The Jazz Wizards (MVDvisual, 5 Stars)

This March 23 DVD was originally recorded for the Canadian TV show of the same name in January 2006; and it features trumpeter/guitarist Healey leading his band forward with enormous respect for jazz from the past. He originally gained fame as a jazz/blues guitarist, but his passion for classic jazz (Louis Armstrong, King Oliver and more) swung him toward that musical field.

This is an excellent presentation, with a stage set like an old castle. Healey's fairly big band effortlessly handles standards like "Bugle Call Rag," "If I Had You" and "Downtown Strutter's Ball" to the point where it's hard to select highlights. Jazz buffs and swing lovers will enjoy this one, which also contains interview segments with Healey about different facets of his musical journey.

- Ricky Flake