

PACIFIC COAST JAZZ

Saltman Knowles - "YESTERDAY'S MAN"

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Artist	Saltman Knowles
Title	Yesterday's Man
Selection #	PJ82364
UPC	829166823649
Street date	January 26, 2010
Radio Add Date	January 11, 2010
Genre	Jazz
Run time	58:54
Label	Pacific Coast Jazz
Format	CD

Personnel: Mark Saltman - Bass William Knowles - Piano Lori Williams-Chisholm - Vocals Antonio Parker - Alto Saxophone Doug Pierce - Flugelhorn, Trumpet Brian Settles - Soprano, Tenor Saxophones

Victor Provost - Soprano Steel Pan Jimmy "Junebug" Jackson – Drums

"Saltman Knowles seems to have developed and discovered a fresh and inviting sound.... all executed and contained in a manner that allows melody to flow unobtrusively back and forth, cradling listeners' ears for the long haul." – Matt Jaworski, Muzikreviews.com

www.saltmanknowles.com

RADIO ADD DATE: January 11, 2010



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"A fine example of all that is good in contemporary jazz...." -Bruce Crowther, Author and Jazz journalist

Track Listing:

- 1). Theme in Search of a Film 5:19 (W. Knowles)
- 2). Cry 7:09 (W. Knowles)
- 3). Shesh 5:30 (M. Saltman)
- 4). What Was I To You 5:20 (W. Knowles)
- 5). Blues for Sale 5:27 (M. Saltman)
- 6). Folk Song 5:24 (M. Saltman)
- 7). They Don't Really Care for Us 7:19 (M. Saltman)
- 8). Yesterday's Man 6:58 (M. Saltman)
- 9). 08 Bossa 6:03 (W. Knowles)
- 10). East Orange Blues 4:58 (W. Knowles)

Saltman Knowles, called "a fine example of all that is good in contemporary jazz," once again stays true to melody and original composition in their latest release on the Pacific Coast Jazz label, *Yesterday's Man*. On the heels of their critically acclaimed fifth CD, Return of the Composer, bassist Mark Saltman and pianist William Knowles have produced a sophisticated yet rhythmically driven statement with a fresh point of view that illustrates the importance of combining intricate song craft with introspective emotion. Lori Williams-Chisholm returns to provide what *JazzTimes* calls "her exquisite wordless vocals" encased in a sultry, smooth sound.

But what makes this release most uniquely distinctive is Victor Provost's soprano steel pan instrumentation laced throughout the compositions, combining elements of the traditional music of Trinidad with the hard-hitting contemporary jazz swing. This amazing combination of jazz and world music textures is thematic, telling a broader story of the beauty of past traditions blending with a conscious, acoustic future. As Saltman Knowles describes, "Yesterday's man dressed well, and was articulate, well-educated, and less medicated. He had sophisticated tastes, integrity, and a much longer attention span, and most of all he listened to good melodic music. Even yesterday's gangsters pulled their pants up, and took your money—not your life. Yesterday's man possessed a lot of qualities that today's man should be striving for. Some of those qualities are on this recording."

For example, take the very first track, "Theme in Search of a Film," with its Brubeck-reminiscent 5/4 driving pulse surrounded by a singing steel pan and melodic horn arrangement, which is followed by a funky treatment of the second track, "Cry," with a Caribbean touch highlighted by lively vocal embellishments. Other memorable songs on the disc include the title track, "Yesterday's Man," with sensitive and thought-provoking lyrics about a holocaust survivor's

perspective: "Falling footsteps / Follow quickly to a greener place / I'll survive / Just dreams of a yesterday's man." Drummer Jimmy "Junebug" Jackson exemplifies the kind of versatility and energy that characterizes each composition, complementing the bold bass work of Mark Saltman and the tasty piano comping of William Knowles. Beautiful horn solos and unusual unison combinations of vocals and steel pan are perfectly executed by Doug Pierce (trumpet/flugelhorn), Brian Settles (tenor saxophone) and Antonio Parker (alto saxophone).

Yesterday's Man brilliantly presents a balanced combination of instrumental and vocal personalities that represent the continued commitment to melody and original composition that began fifteen years ago, when Mark Saltman and William Knowles first met in college. According to Matt Jaworski of MuzicReviews.com," Saltman Knowles seems to have developed and discovered a fresh and inviting sound. Rhythmic variety, pocket, and interaction are all executed and contained in a manner that allows melody to flow unobtrusively back and forth, cradling listeners' ears for the long haul."

In *Yesterday's Man*, Saltman Knowles provides something wonderful for today's music listener.



www.SaltmanKnowles.com

TRACK INFORMATION FOR "Yesterday's Man" from Saltman Knowles:

1) **Theme in Search of a Film** The title is self-explanatory. The piece is in 5/4 and represents our growing interest in writing music for films after Mark and I attended a music film workshop in Seattle this year. (Knowles)

2) **Cry** Signifies a release and in this particular instance an exultation. (Knowles)

3) **Shesh** This is the Hebrew word for 6, which is also the time signature and number of players on this song. It uses Middle Eastern themes and features melodic saxophone and soprano steel pan solos by Brian Settles and Victor Provost. (Saltman)

4) What Was I To You There's always one cute flirtatious girl who just wants to be friends. (Knowles)

5) **Blue for Sale** (sold!) This song is about the lack of value our culture is putting on our art. There is a bit of "Bug" juice (Jimmy "Junebug" Jackson) in the percussion solo. (Saltman)

6) **Folk Song** A theme reminiscent of folk music with beautiful solos by Doug Pierce (flugelhorn) and Antonio Parker (alto saxophone). (Saltman)

7) **They Don't Really Care for Us** This song was written after the great flood, meaning New Orleans not Noah's. Our drummer Bug's idea was to kick it off with the Second Line groove. Second Line groove is a specific description of what they play in New Orleans, a lively march-like syncopated rhythm that comes from the celebratory portion of a New Orleans funeral service. (Saltman)

8) **Yesterday's Man** This is the title track that tells the story of a holocaust survivor's memories. I wrote the lyrics after visiting the Holocaust Museum with some of my band students. William Knowles and vocalist Lori Williams-Chisholm open it up with a haunting rubato section before the groove kicks in to complement the lyrics. (Saltman)

9) **08 Bossa** (not just bossa) I thought this would be a wonderful vehicle for Lori's Vocalese (wordless vocals). The second line is a lively march-like syncopated rhythm that comes from the celebratory portion of a New Orleans funeral service.

10) *East Orange Blues* A gritty minor blues tune for our drummer "Bug". He lived in East Orange, New Jersey for a few years. Mark and I have fun doubling the bass line together, and the rhythm section marches on this one. (Knowles)

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