

Press Release: July 1, 2003

TRACINGS - CD release party

Mike Tracy Jazz Ensemble

Who: Mike Tracy Jazz Ensemble
What: Tracings - CD release party
When: Thursday, July 17, 2003 - 8pm and 10pm sets
Where: The Jazz Factory
Tickets: \$5 general admission
\$2 discount for Louisville Jazz Society and students with a valid ID.
Tickets available at the door beginning at 7:00.
Sponsors: Louisville Jazz Society and The Jazz Factory
Information: 502 992-3242 and www.JazzFactory.us

Celebrate the release of saxophonist Mike Tracy's CD *TRACINGS*, at the region's newest jazz club - The Jazz Factory - on Thursday, July 17. *TRACINGS*, on Sea Breeze Jazz (SB 3062-www.seabreezejazz.com), features originals and Brazilian standards in a variety of ensemble combinations. Featured performers will include pianist Steve Allee, bassist Tyrone Wheeler, guitarist Craig Wagner and drummer Jason Tiemann.

A veritable "Ambassador of Jazz," Mike Tracy is one of America's foremost jazz educators, with more than thirty years' performing and teaching experience. Mike has traveled throughout the United States, Europe, South America and Asia as a performer and educator. He is Professor of Music and Jazz at the University of Louisville and Director of the Jamey Aebersold Jazz Studies Program.

Brazilian music entered the jazz *diaspora* in the early 1960s and has left an indelible mark on the world of jazz. Saxophonist Mike Tracy is not immune to this occurrence and has, in fact, made several trips to Brazil to perform and teach. So it's not surprising that Brazilian music would figure heavily in this, his latest recording. Most of the tunes have some connection to Brazil, primarily through Tracy's association with Brazilian pianist Renato Vasconcellos (who appears on the recording). Vasconcellos composed several tunes and suggested material by composers from his native land. He also brought along one of his friends, drummer Erivelton Silva from Brasilia, to add that extra touch of real Brazilian rhythm to the project. Other performers on the recording include Steve Allee (piano), Tyrone Wheeler (bass), Terry O'Mahoney (drums and percussion), Pat Lentz (guitar), Kathy Jordan (vocal) and Greg Byrne (percussion). Selections include original works by Steve Allee and Renato Vasconcellos, with arrangements of Brazilian standards by composers Antonio Carlos Jobim, Hermento Pascoal, Milton Nascimento and Rique Pantoja.

Copies of *TRACINGS* will be available at The Jazz Factory, Hawley Cooke, Ear X-Tacy, Sea Breeze Jazz (www.seabreezejazz.com/) and from Mike Tracy at miketracy@louisville.edu.

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