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Mosaic Select: Bud Shank/Bob Cooper (MS 010)

Text from mosaicrecords.com announcing this set:

THE EARLY YEARS.

After three years together in Stan Kenton's sax section, Charlie Parker-inspired alto saxophonist Bud Shank and Lucky Thompson-influenced tenorman Bob Cooper left to pursue their own careers and played together in Howard Rumsey's Lighthouse All-Stars, where they found unlikely success with an album that featured Shank's flute and Cooper's oboe. Both reedmen exhibited remarkable fluency and technique in adapting these unusual instruments to a jazz context.

In April/June 1954, Shank cut Bud Shank And Three Trombones – all valve trombones - for Pacific Jazz with Bob Cooper contributing the arrangements and three originals. Despite the absence of Cooper, Shank's next date with Bob Brookmeyer and a string quintet is also included here because it's rare and we had room. (Bob Cooper's 1955 Kenton Presents LPs with Shank can be heard on Mosaic MD4-185).

REUNION

By 1956, the reedmen were studio regulars, but Shank was concentrating on his own quartet. At one concert recorded by Pacific Jazz (Jazz At Cal-Tech), he invited Cooper to be guest artist and they revived their flute/oboe combination on two tunes. The response was such that they returned to the studio in November to record Flute 'N Oboe with Howard Roberts, Don Prell and Chuck Flores. On five selections, they are joined by a string quartet with absolutely brilliant writing by Cooper.

In January 1958, they began The Swing's To TV with four tunes using the same instrumentation. But a month later, they decided to open things; using Shank's rhythm section, they recorded 11 tunes using various combinations of Shank on alto, tenor and flute and Cooper on tenor, bass clarinet and oboe with remarkable results. This material found its way onto The Swing's To TV, Jazz Swings Broadway and Blowin' Country.

Although their paths crossed constantly in studios and clubs, the sound they created together (and not just on flute and oboe) came to an end with these sessions, all of which are included here in their entirety.

Track Listing & Discography

DISC ONE

| | | |
|---|------|------------------------------|
| 1. Valve In Head (A2) | 3:12 | (Bud Shank) |
| 2. Cool Fool (A2) | 3:23 | (Bob Cooper) |
| 3. Little Girl Blue (A2) | 3:18 | (R. Rodgers-L. Hart) |
| 4. Mobile (A1) | 2:45 | (Bob Cooper) |
| 5. Wailing Vessel (A2) | 2:43 | (Bob Cooper) |
| 6. Baby's Birthday Party (A1) | 2:48 | (Ann Ronell) |
| 7. You Don't Know What Love Is (A1) | 4:18 | (D. Raye-G. DePaul) |
| 8. Sing Something Simple (A1) | 2:37 | (Herman Hupfield) |
| 9. Wailing Vessel (alternate take) (A2) | 2:40 | (Bob Cooper) |
| 10. When Lights Are Low (C) | 7:37 | (B. Carter-S. Williams) |
| 11. Old Devil Moon (C) | 6:49 | (B. Lane-E. Y. Harburg) |
| 12. The Nearness Of You (C) | 4:18 | (H. Carmichael-N Washington) |
| 13. Medley (C) | 5:11 | |
| a. How Long Has This Been Going On | | (G. Gershwin-I. Gershwin) |
| b. Tea For Two | | (V. Youmans-I. Caesar) |
| 14. Lullaby Of Birdland (C) | 4:15 | (George Shearing) |
| 15. Somebody Loves Me (C) | 5:46 | (Gershwin-MacDonald-DeSylva) |
| 16. Moonlight In Vermont (C) | 6:32 | (K. Suessdorf-J. Blackburn) |
| 17. The King (C) | 6:40 | (Count Basie) |

DISC TWO

| | | |
|---|------|--------------------------|
| 1. Low Life (B2) | 3:56 | (Johnny Mandel) |
| 2. When Your Lover Has Gone (B1) | 2:55 | (Einar Swan) |
| 3. Out Of This World (B1) | 3:12 | (H. Arlen-J. Mercer) |
| 4. There's A Small Hotel (B1) | 2:38 | (R. Rodgers-L. Hart) |
| 5. Rustic Hop (B2) 4:12 (Bob Brookmeyer) | | |
| 6. You Are Too Beautiful (B1) | 4:01 | (R. Rodgers-L. Hart) |
| 7. With The Wind And The Rain In Your Hair (B2) | 5:08 | (C. Edwards-J. Lawrence) |
| 8. Low Life (alternate take) (B2) | 3:56 | (Johnny Mandel) |
| 9. Dinah (G) | 3:18 | (Akst-Young-Lewis) |
| 10. Mutual Admiration Society (G) | 3:46 | (M. Dubey-H. Karr) |
| 11. Steve Allen Theme (G) | 4:09 | (Steve Allen) |
| 12. I've Grown Accustomed To Her Face (G) | 2:42 | (A.J. Lerner-F. Loewe) |
| 13. Blowin' Country (G) | 6:16 | (Bud Shank) |
| 14. Love Nest (G) | 3:14 | (L. Hirsch-O. Harbach) |
| 15. As Long As There's Music (G) | 3:41 | (J. Styne-S. Cahn) |
| 16. Just In Time (G) | 3:42 | (Styne-Comden-Green) |
| 17. Two Lost Souls | 3:45 | (R. Adler-J. Ross) |
| 18. Thanks For The Memory (G) | 4:28 | (R. Rainger-L. Robin) |

19. A Romantic Guy, I (G) 3:33 (Sharbutt-Stanton-Uhl)

DISC THREE

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| 1. Sweet Georgia Brown (D) | 3:41 | (Bernie-Casey-Pinkard) |
| 2. Gypsy In My Soul (D) | 3:24 | (C. Boland-M. Jaffe) |
| 3. I Want To Be Happy (D) | 2:32 | (V. Youmans-I. Caesar) |
| 4. What'll I Do (D) | 2:45 | (Irving Berlin) |
| 5. They Didn't Believe Me (E) | 4:42 | (J. Kern-M. Rourke) |
| 6. In The Blue Of The Evening (E) | 3:35 | (A. D'Artega-T. Adair) |
| 7. Tequila Time (E) | 4:20 | (Bob Cooper) |
| 8. I Can't Get Started (E) | 4:15 | (V. Duke-I. Gershwin) |
| 9. Blues for Delilah (E) | 7:00 | (Bob Cooper) |
| 10. Sunset And Wine (E) | 4:11 | (Bob Cooper) |
| 11. When You Wish Upon A Star (F) | 4:17 | (N. Washington-L. Harline) |
| 12. Put Your Dreams Away (F) | 3:06 | (Mann-Weiss-Lowe) |
| 13. Tenderly (F) | 2:51 | (W. Gross-J. Lawrence) |
| 14. Danny Boy (Londonderry Air) (F) | 4:35 | (traditional) |

(A) Bud Shank, alto sax; Bob Enevoldsen, Stu Williamson, Maynard Ferguson, valve trombones; Claude Williamson, piano; Joe Mondragon, bass; Shelly Manne, drums; Bob Cooper, arranger.

Recorded at Capitol Studios, Los Angeles on April 3 (A1) and June 22 (A2), 1954.

Recording engineer: Alan Emig.

The alternate take of "Wailing Vessel" was originally issued on JAZZ WEST COAST Pacific Jazz JWC 500. All other selections originally issued on BUD SHANK AND THREE TROMBONES Pacific Jazz 10" LP 14.

(B) Bud Shank, alto sax; Bob Brookmeyer; valve trombone; Claude Williamson, piano; Joe Mondragon (B1), Buddy Clark (B2), bass; Larry Bunker, drums; Strings: (B1) Samuel Cytron, Tibor Zelig, Milton Feher, violins; Myron Sandler, viola; Paul Bergstrom, cello; (B2) Sam Caplan, Marshall Sosson, Ben Gill, violins; Lou Kievman, viola; Ray Kramer, cello.

Arranged by Russ Garcia (all B1 tunes), Johnny Mandel ("Low Life"), Bob Brookmeyer (all other B2 tunes).

Recorded at Radio Recorders, Los Angeles on November 29, 1954 (B1) and January 7, 1955 (B2).

Recording engineer: Val Valentin.

The alternate take of "Low Life" was originally issued on JAZZ WEST COAST Pacific Jazz JWC 500. All other selections originally issued on BUD SHANK AND BOB BROOKMEYER Pacific Jazz 10" LP 20.

(C) Bud Shank, alto sax, flute; Bob Cooper, tenor sax, oboe; Claude Williamson, piano; Don Prell, bass; Chuck Flores, drums.

Recorded live at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA on January 19, 1956.

Recording engineer: Phil Turetsky.

Originally issued as JAZZ AT CAL-TECH - THE BUD SHANK QUARTET WITH BOB COOPER (Pacific Jazz PJ-1219)

(D) Bud Shank, flute; Bob Cooper, oboe; Howard Roberts, guitar; Don Prell, bass; Chuck Flores, drums.

Recorded at Capitol Studios, Los Angeles on November 29, 1956 (first session).

“Sweet Georgia Brown” originally issued on BLOWIN’ COUNTRY World Pacific WP-1277. All others originally issued on FLUTE ‘N OBOE (World Pacific WP-1226).

(E) Bud Shank, flute; Bob Cooper, oboe, arranger; Howard Roberts, guitar; Don Prell, bass; Chuck Flores, drums; Ben Gill, Eudice Shapiro, violins; Milt Thomas, viola; Ray Kramer, cello.

Recorded at Capitol Studios, Los Angeles on November 29, 1956 (second session).

All selections originally issued on FLUTE ‘N OBOE (World Pacific WP-1226).

(F) Bud Shank, flute; Bob Cooper, oboe, arranger; Howard Roberts, guitar; Don Prell, bass; Shelly Manne, drums; Eudice Shapiro, Bob Sushel, Jack Pepper, violins; Milt Thomas, viola; Ray Kramer, cello.

Shank plays alto sax on “Tenderly”. Cooper plays tenor sax on “Danny Boy”.

Recorded at Capitol Studios, Los Angeles on January 21, 1958.

Originally issued on THE SWING’S TO TV (World Pacific WPM-411).

(G) Bud Shank, alto sax, tenor sax, flute; Bob Cooper, tenor sax, oboe, bass clarinet; Claude Williamson, piano; Don Prell, bass; Chuck Flores, drums.

Recorded at Capitol Studios, Los Angeles on February 18, 1958.

“Mutual Admiration Society”, “Accustomed To Her Face”, “Just In Time” and “Two Lost Souls” originally issued on JAZZ SWINGS BROADWAY (World Pacific WPM-404). “Blowin’ Country” originally issued on BLOWIN’ COUNTRY (World Pacific WP-1277). All other selections originally issued on THE SWING’S TO TV (World Pacific WPM-411). The first nine selections are in the original sequence of BLOWIN’ COUNTRY.

Original sessions produced by Richard Bock (A-C) and Russ Freeman (D-G).

All selection are mono.

Produced for release by Michael Cuscuna

Transferred in 24-bit and mastered by Ron McMaster.

Note: Minor instances of distortion are in the original tape sources.

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