

Dave Wilson Biography

Dave Wilson is jazz saxophonist, recording artist, composer, and educator in the Central PA/ Delaware Valley area where he leads his band The Dave Wilson Quartet. Born and raised in Bronxville, N.Y. Wilson has studied with saxophonists Dave Liebman, Joe Lovano, Bill Barron, Ralph Lalama with a primary focus on tenor and soprano. He is also adept at alto, clarinet and flute. With his quartet, Wilson and his band mates are known for their exciting improvisations, creative individualistic compositions, and unique arrangements of standards. As the saxophonist states, "what sounds good, is what is true to our artistic vision, and can communicate with the audience on a deep level...it's jazz".

In January 2022, Wilson released his sixth CD, *Stretching Supreme (2022 Dave Wilson Music)*, a homage to Wilson's idol John Coltrane, whose music changed the course of Wilson's life and career. In an early review Chris Spector of the Midwest Record writes, "A sax bad boy that knows his stuff pays tribute to Coltrane and doing a fine job interpreting music that lives on 60 years later...Count on this journey through the past to hit all the right notes at every turn."

The 7 song disc, taped at Philadelphia's own Chris' Jazz club on two separate evening in 2017 and 2018 includes 5 John Coltrane compositions, the 3 song suite "Love Supreme", "Dear Lord", "Naima", a Wilson original "On the Prairie" and the Mancini classic "Days Of Wine and Roses". The performances are the fruition of the quartet's long-time lineup. As Wilson states, "...On this night I owed so much to my long-time bandmates pianist Kirk Reese, bassist Tony Marino and drummer Alex Ritz. We hit some magic, got in a groove and stayed there. We felt a spirit, a creative flow and were in the moment."

Wilson's artistry shines through out the CD, weaving through the legendary saxophonist's epic suite with a fluidity that is fresh, exciting and vibrant while spanning a plethora of nuances and dynamics via an arsenal of tenor and soprano horns. As Wilson says. "We were able to capture the magic of a live recording on a good night, and there was no reason to edit or chop these songs down to take away from it. It's all here in its entirety."

Wilson's previous releases include *One Night at Chris'* (2019 Dave Wilson Music), *There Was Never* (Zoho Music 2016), *Spiral* (2010 Summitt Records), *My Time* (2006 Dreambox Media) and *Through the Time* (2002 Dreamscape Records).

Through the Time received airplay on 30 jazz stations nationwide. *My Time* peaked at #55 on the Jazz Weekly Radio chart and garnered nationwide reviews in Jazz Times, All About Jazz and The Philadelphia Inquirer. *Spiral* featured internationally known personnel, Phil Markowitz-piano, Tony Marino-bass, and Adam Nussbaum-drums. It appeared in the Jazz Weekly countdown, topping at #51 nationwide and stayed in the fifty's for over 8 weeks and received reviews in Jazz Times and Downbeat.

Recorded at world renowned Red Rock Studios, Saylorsburg, PA, *There Was Never* included the all-star lineup of Bobby Avey-piano, Tony Marino-bass, Alex Ritz-drums performing six original compositions as well as unique and compelling interpretations of "God Only Knows" by the Beach Boys, The Grateful Dead's "Cassidy" It was in the top fifty of the nation-wide Jazz Weekly Jazz Radio Countdown for six weeks, reaching a high of #18. It reached number 5 in the Top 11 on Philadelphia's WRTI new releases and was submitted for a Grammy nomination that year.

One Night at Chris' was recorded live at the famous Chris' Jazz Cafe in Philadelphia. Jazz journalist and author Bill Milkowski states in the liner notes of the CD, "savvy adaptations of familiar pop tunes, filtered It was in the top 50 nationally on jazz radio and earned "Jazz Album of the Week" at Philadelphia's WRTI-FM in August of 2019.

For over thirty years the saxophonist has kept an active performance schedule of 120-150 dates a year. Such performances have included at The Berk's Jazz Fest, JazzFest in York, PA, Bethlehem Musikfest, Philadelphia's Jazz Bridge's "Neighborhood Concert Series", Harrisburg American Music Festival, The Manassas, VA Wine & Jazz Festival, Washington D.C.'s Ronald Reagan Plaza, Baltimore's Artscape, Central PA Arts Festival to name a few. Dave also performed regularly at venues such as the famed Chris' Jazz Cafe in Philadelphia and Baltimore's An Die Musik LIVE.

Besides his quartet Dave has performed with the legendary trumpet master Dave Stahl in his Big Band and Sacred Orchestra, appearing on two of their CDs and playing alongside such artists as Wynton Marsalis, Tom Harrell, Conrad Herwig, Steve Smith, and the late Lou Soloff to name a few. He also co-led the traditional Jazz/New Orleans ensemble The Canal Street Hot 6 for several years with trumpeter Ben Mauer, one of the top purveyors of this genre on the East Coast, and presently leads the Rampart Street Ramblers.

Throughout his thirty plus year career Dave has worked with such artists as pianists Mark Soskin, Jim Ridl, Phil Markowitz, Bobby Avey, Steve Rudolph, bassists Tony Marino, Blake Meister, and Steve Varner, drummers Adam Nussbaum, Bill Goodwin, Alex Ritz, Frank Russo and Marko Marcinko, saxophonist Tim Warfield, and guitarist Steve Giordano and others.

Wilson resides with his wife Lisa in Lancaster, PA. where, when off stage, he teaches woodwinds and owns and operates Dave Wilson Musical Instruments a business focusing on the buying and selling of vintage, modern and student brass and woodwind musical instruments.

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