## Mp3 Jazzhole - Poet's Walk



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Modern, urban acoustic soul, with jazz and bossa influences. 10 MP3 Songs URBAN/R&B: Soul, URBAN/R&B: Rhythm Blues Details: PRESS SOUL EXPRESS jazzy soul heaven rich in percussion and wah wah guitar. SOULTRACKS.COM Poet's Walk is a joy from start to finish and is a must-have for lovers of soulful jazz. BLUES AND SOUL Pondel Rosenstein provide subtle, groove-based backups for Saunders soul-drenched vocals SAVE OUR SOUL Moments of excitement and suspense are altered with spells of relaxation in this poetical urban music landscape. Poet's walk might turn out to be one of those albums that is timeless. ECHOES an absolutely blinding piece of workwhoever it sounds, or doesnt sound like. Its hypnotic, utterly absorbing, soulful mood music of the kind that you play for years and years. An in Jonesin it has one of the years best musical trains of though so far. Marlon Saunders and his mates are magicians. FM MAGAZINE Jazzhole's retro vibe is a blend of bohemian acid jazz and cool soul grooves- the perfect accompaniment for long summer nights. BEATS AND RANTS Poet's Walk is a great collection of wonderful jazz-soul music. JUSTSOUL.NET Jazzhole are one of the finest live bands in the world, regarding the organic soul/jazz scene. JAZZ-NOT-JAZZ The song Timeless sums up what the music on Poets Walk is all about: strong songs, organic instrumentation and a great singer. In a nutshell its soul music with a timeless quality, that you can listen to over and over again. A real must-have for any serious soul music fan. AIDING AND ABETTING This latest trip down Smooth and Funky Way goes down just as easy as all the other discs I've heard from these folks. BIOGRAPHY Poet's Walk, Jazzhole's fifth studio recording, finds founding members Warren Rosenstein, John Pondel and Marlon Saunders exploring the new hybridity of modern urban soul: a sound that incorporates downtempo grooves and acoustic R&B, with hints of bossa nova. Poet's Walk benefits from performances by several guests: keyboardist David Sancious (Stanley Clarke, Bruce Springsteen, Sting), saxophonist David

Binney, vocalist and Yemen-native Michal Cohen (Meredith Monk, Uri Caine), and percussion star Daniel Sadownick (Me'Shell Ndegeocello, Maxwell, Screaming Headless Torsos). Refreshingly, Jazzhole remains an evolving collective of many of New York's most accomplished live and studio musicians. While Jazzhole's roster has changed since their 1994 self-titled debut, the band's core songwriting and production trio Marlon Saunders, Warren Rosenstein and John Pondel-has not. Marlon Saunders provides much of Jazzhole's signature soulful sound. A heavily sought-after session singer, songwriter and producer, Saunders has recorded with legends such as Bobby McFerrin, Michael Jackson and Sting, and has penned songs for Barry White, Maysa, and Vanessa Rubin. A professor of voice at the prestigious Berklee College of Music, Saunders has also released two outstanding solo recordings, Enter My Mind and A Groove So Deep: The Live Sessions. John Pondel's emotive guitar playing on songs such as the title track, "Poet's Walk" and "Timeless", draw on his many live and recorded performances with artists such as Gerald Wilson, Diane Schurr and Carmen McRae. John also comprises half of Verve's smooth jazz duo, Kombo. and was a founding member of the critically-acclaimed Uncle Festive (Mesa/Blue Moon). In additional to writing, and production, Brooklyn-born Warren Rosenstein mixed Poet's Walk with his brother, Glenn Rosenstein. In the early 1990s, while working on seminal acid jazz tracks "Hot Music" (Soho) and "Jazz it Up" (CFM Band), Rosenstein drew from the rich pool of talent that was hovering around Context Studios on Manhattan's Lower East Side to form Jazzhole, pulling in rappers KCB (US3), Ahmed Best (Stomp), Jack Ruby, Jr. (The Toasters), as well as vocalists Ronnie Rosa Russ, and Michelle Lewis for their 1994 debut album on Mesa/Blue Moon. A summer of jamming in the studio, with musicians like bassist Scott Colley (Jim Hall, Greg Osby) and saxophonist David Binney (Lost Tribe, Medeski, Martin Wood) resulted in the eponymous debut album, hailed by Music Retailing as "the coolest thing since US3 and the Brand New Heavies" and Rolling Stone as "the most danceable of all the new-groove groups". This recording showcased the trumpet playing of Kevin DiSimone on the acid jazz classic "Forward Motion." And the Feeling Goes Round, Jazzhole's 1995 sophomore release on Blue Moon/Atlantic, was met with similar critical acclaim: "Infinitely funky, and if you don't feel the need to groove, it's time for a visit to the booty doctor" raved Impact. DJ Times added: "Some of the most poetic lyrics and turning out some of the fiercest grooves in the burgeoning acid jazz scene." Released in 2000, Blackburst marked a change in direction for Jazzhole. Blackburst saw the group mixing elements of electronica and chillout with their soul roots, and moving away from acid jazz and hip-hop. These

changes were well-received by fans and press alike. Billboard reported: "Blackburst is filled with luscious grooves and intense rhythms. Saunders and Russ lay down sensuous riffs, perfect for late nights with that special someone." BRE added: "A yummy collection of jazz-influenced tunes that inspire lust, laughter and lounging." In 2003, Jazzhole moved on to a more acoustic sound on Circle of the Sun. Billboard wrote "... disregards contemporary R&B conventions in favor of musical landscapes that, while certainly earthy, are also otherworldly. ...it is rather sublime. A feast for the ears.", while Straight No Chaser added: "From the opening track, you sense the majesty and sophistication at work, and as the album progresses, weaving in African vocal tracks which sit comfortably alongside expansive instrumental segues, you know something special is afoot. Albums like this are few and far between..."

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