

Mp3 The James Bazen Big Band - The Wednesday Night Pizza Band



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Builds on the best of artists such as Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Stan Kenton, Count Basie, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Chick Corea, Frank Sinatra, Jimi Hendrix, Carlos Santana, Bob Marley, Claude Debussy, J. S. Bach, and even Celtic folk artists. 10 MP3 Songs JAZZ: Big Band, JAZZ: Bebop Details: On a typical Wednesday night at Paisano's restaurant in Rockville, Maryland, 18 of the hottest musicians in the Washington, DC metropolitan area gather to experiment with contemporary big band sounds. Dubbed "The Wednesday Night Pizza Band", this group is dedicated to celebrating Music. All types of Music. Not jazz, not swing, not rock, not classical, not world beat, not adult contemporary and certainly not Top 40. Just Music with a capital "M." And Fun with a capital "F". James Bazen got his Bachelor Of Music at Greensboro College, a small private school in North Carolina. At GC he majored in classical saxophone. Once he graduated he quickly realized that there are a total of maybe three major symphonic works that used saxophone! Not exactly great odds on making a living. After this revelation Bazen spent some time in New Orleans. "I was one of those guys in the street with my case open," Bazen says, "playing my clarinet and sax for the tourists." Here he was exposed to the great traditions of blues, dixieland, and Cajun music. He later endured one year of master's studies at DePaul University in Chicago. There he majored in "jazz and commercial music." Again, quickly realizing that one can only learn so much in an academic setting, he left DePaul and began attending performances of the great Chicago jazz musicians as well as frequenting jam sessions and starting his own bands in "the real world." When Bazen moved to Washington, DC with his wife Sarah he tried various day gigs to make ends meet including managing a record store. "It was awful," Bazen says. "Working with various bands until 2 or 3 in the morning and then working at the store from 8 to 6...I was a zombie. In addition to being too tired to be creative, I hated

working for corporate America. I just prefer to be my own boss." Which brings us to the present... In an effort to "be his own boss" Bazen started his own talent agency, musicunlimited.com, and started booking his variety band and other acts. The business has done well enough that it has allowed him to finance his "jazz habit." (How do you make a million dollars in jazz? Start with two million!) Now James Bazen produces his own records. This gives him the freedom to explore his talents both as a musician and arranger no matter where they lead.

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