

1704 Steve Davis "Think Ahead" (street date 5/26/17)

Trombonist/composer **Steve Davis** offers a master class on his new release, *Think Ahead*, in art of reacting to the unpredictable with an elite group of jazz all-stars whose ability to create spontaneously borders on the clairvoyant. For this album, Davis focuses on his original writing and arranging; it's hardly a secret that Davis is one of the most talented composers on the modern jazz scene. To render these new compositions, Davis assembled a stellar group of masters: the trombonist is joined by saxophonists **Steve Wilson** and **Jimmy Greene**, pianist **Larry Willis**, bassist **Peter Washington** and drummer **Lewis Nash**, each deserving the title of "jazz giant" in their own right. In fact, it was this precise ensemble that Davis had in mind when he sat down to write several months before the session. He shares with every member of the ensemble a long and deep history, so he knew that he would have the makings of a truly profound, flawlessly swinging, flat-out *burning* set of music. In addition to Davis' originals, *Think Ahead* also includes two beloved standards, "Polka Dots and Moonbeams" and "Love Walked In," as well as two jazz classics by departed giants Tony Williams and Bobby Hutcherson, "Warrior" and "Little B's Poem," respectively.

"I've been deeply involved with everyone in this band on not only a professional level but as friends for decades," Davis says. "So it was more than an honor to have this group together." The resulting record is an inspired set of straight-ahead jazz that will be a favorite for years to come.

1. **Warrior** (Tony Williams) 4:48
2. **Abena's Gaze** (Steve Davis) 6:15
3. **A Little Understanding** (Steve Davis) 8:31
4. **Atmosphere** (Steve Davis) 6:31
5. **Mountaintop** (Steve Davis) 5:32
6. **Polka Dots and Moonbeams** (Jimmy Van Heusen / Johnny Burke) 9:06
7. **Love Walked In** (George Gershwin / Ira Gershwin) 7:00
8. **Think Ahead** (Steve Davis) 5:11
9. **Little B's Poem** (Bobby Hutcherson) 6:23
10. **Evening Shades of Blue** (Steve Davis) 7:26
11. **Farewell, Brother** (Steve Davis) 8:45



Catalog: SSR-1704
Artist: Steve Davis
Title: Think Ahead
UPC: 888295535670
Street Date: 26 May 2017



Steve Davis, trombone
Steve Wilson, alto & soprano saxophones, flute
Jimmy Greene, tenor saxophones
Larry Willis, piano
Peter Washington, bass
Lewis Nash, drums

PRODUCT FEATURES

- Trombone master Steve Davis returns with a heartfelt and inspired set that is focused on his renowned writing and arranging.
- Features an all-star sextet of interesting timbres and colors with Steve Wilson, Jimmy Greene, Larry Willis, Peter Washington & Lewis Nash.
- 8-panel deluxe gatefold digipak featuring original photography by John Abbott and liner notes by *SiriusXM* radio's Mark Ruffin.
- Tracked at Sear Sound, Studio C on a Neve 8038 Custom Console in New York City on January 16, 2017.
- Also available in audiophile 96khz/24bit digital download format

MARKETING DETAILS

- Key N. Amer. Markets: Hartford (Hometown), New York, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Providence, DC, LA, San Francisco
- Press campaign by DL Media
- Radio campaign by GROOV Marketing
- Social Media (Facebook, YouTube & Twitter) and email marketing by Smoke Sessions Records
- Online and Print Advertising in *Downbeat* and *JazzTimes*
- Record Release Events at Smoke Jazz Club, NYC (June 3, 4 & 5, 2017).

PREVIOUS RELEASES ON SMOKE SESSIONS RECORDS

- SSR-1505: Steve Davis "Say When"

PRESS

"It is hard to come up with more superlatives about Steve Davis. He is certainly in the upper echelon of all active trombone players, and is heading toward legendary status." – *Jeff Krow, Audiophile Audition*

"It's Davis's rich, buttery tone that strikes you first, this allied to an ease in execution and a sense of collective energy that are both engrossing and deeply satisfying. This has the authentic New York feel." – *Peter Vacher, London Jazz News*

"At the heart of his work is Davis' penchant for delivering exactly what a particular song or ensemble needs, whether flash instinctual soloing or supportive rhythmic playing in which space and phrasing takes precedence." – *Rick Koster, The Day (New London, CT)*

"A stalwart on the scene since the '90s, when he worked with Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, Jackie McLean and Chick Corea's Origin, trombonist Steve Davis has established himself as one of the most accomplished and lyrical improvisers on his instrument as well as a prolific composer."

– *Bill Milkowski, JazzTimes*