

Press Release:

Mitschke & Dietz ----- NIGHT OVER BERLIN

CD-Release June 2005 at Skip Records - SKP 9060

The project **Mitschke & Dietz** represents a twofold première: We don't want to brag, but this is the first release from **Wolfgang Mitschke** on SKIP. The second factor is that this Berliner multi-instrumentalist has joined forces with saxophonist **Jürgen Dietz** to do a complete album, a new dimension for one and all.

Born in sleepy Bonn, the former capital of Germany, **Mitschke** designates himself as a do-it-yourselfer. "I've been interested in jazz music ever since I was a kid, but I never viewed conservatories as a viable route. Making use of the one-on-one encounters with musicians was always what allowed me to orient myself musically." Percussion lessons at the School of Music in Saarbrücken belong to his infrequent confrontations with the musical powers that be, yet his inquisitiveness toward the widest variety of instruments and invariably running into a series of teachers finally led him to a different "key" instrument, keyboards. Using the technical possibilities at the time, he immediately immersed himself into the world of programming. A quick study, **Wolfgang Mitschke** utilized modern audio technology to set bass, drums or strings into his recordings so organically that the resulting sound was broadly acclaimed as "rich" and "full".

With "**Journey To Sydney**" (1999), "**Sundance**" (2001) and "**Latin In New York**" (2003), the three albums he has released to date, this multi-talent has established his name on the markets, especially in the USA. When it came to style, **Mitschke** brewed a blend of catchy Latin jazz sounds, fusion and smooth jazz elements together with his own versions of timeless jazz classics. Asked about his influences and idols, he replied with such masters of the 88s as **Joe Sample**, **Kenny Barron**, **Tom Schuman (Spyro Gyra)** and **Bill Sharpe (Shakatak)**, as well as the drummers **Victor Lewis**, **Billy Hart** or **Dennis Chambers**.

To get back to our current album, "**Night Over Berlin**", it purposely contains remastered versions of some of the highlights from his first recordings (e.g. "**Streetwalkin'**", "**Tribute To George Duke**" or "**Sundance**", a tune inspired by **Herbie Hancock's** work in the '70s and '80s). A series of brand-new pieces attest to the consistency of the path he has taken into the realms of wave music, smooth jazz and standards. Relaxed listening is assured.

A workhorse of a different color, **Jürgen Dietz**, Mitschke's counterpart on "**Night Over Berlin**", got his chops studying with such teachers as **Christof Lauer** and **David Liebman**. In recent years he has brought his horn to bear for colleagues including **Torsten De Winkel**, **Michael Küttner** and **Julia Hülsmann**.

Catalog Number: SKP 9060
Distribution: Soulfood
Release Date: June 2005
Playlist Tips: Sundance, Night Over Berlin, Yardbird Suite

Label: http://www.skiprecords.com/de_home.php
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