

The Bob DeVos Organ Trio

Bob DeVos Guitar
Dan Kostelnik Hammond B-3 Organ
Steve Johns Drums



“I play, compose and arrange to explore a new potential of the Hammond B3 Organ trio genre without losing the tradition, the spirit and--at heart-- the blues feel of the great organ trios I came up with.” --Bob DeVos

The Bob DeVos Organ Trio has been performing to enthusiastic, full houses and great acclaim since coming together as a group in 2005. It unites Bob with two terrific musicians: Hammond B3 organist Dan Kostelnik and drummer Steve Johns.

With long, blues-drenched melodic lines and a distinctive, horn-like sound, guitarist-composer Bob DeVos is hailed as “a master with a sound to die for: rich, full, deep, positive, round and warm.” As a young player, he started out replacing Pat Martino in the Trudy Pitts & Mr. C. Trio, then went on to perform and record extensively with other Hammond B-3 Organ group legends: Charles Earland, Jimmy McGriff-Hank Crawford, Richard “Groove” Holmes-Sonny Stitt, Jack McDuff and modern organists Joey DeFrancesco, Dr. Lonnie Smith, and Mike LeDonne, as well as many, many jazz greats past and current outside the organ jazz genre.

Dan Kostelnik brings a mastery over the traditional organ idiom combined with the ability to handle modern, harmonically complex structures. An in-demand player, Dan recently recorded his first CD as a leader. Like Bob, Steve Johns is a complete musician—dynamic and musical with extensive experience playing and recording in a wide range of styles. Currently also part of the Sonny Fortune

Quartet and Billy Taylor Trio, he has played with many great artists.

Bob composes with Dan’s and Steve’s playing in mind. “Each of us has developed our own, unique sound and style on our instruments and I compose to create a unique organ trio sound. We share musical influences and goals; we all like what Larry Young-Grant Green-Elvin Jones did during the 1960s: They were soulful, but they weren’t playing soul/jazz; they were playing jazz. I look to bring the Young-Green-Jones organ trio tradition of playing jazz into the 21st Century.”

Bob and his trio’s “Shifting Sands” (Oct. 2006) and “Playing For Keeps” (Oct.2007) on HighNote/Savant have garnered rave reviews; critics applaud both Bob’s hip original tunes and his modern, inventive arrangements of a wide-range of jazz standards. Tenor saxophone great Eric Alexander, with whom Bob has been collaborating since their years together with Charles Earland in the 1990’s, joins Bob’s trio on some tracks. “Shifting Sands” was high on *JazzWeek’s Top 50 Jazz Airplay Chart* for seven months, appeared on many TOP 2006 Jazz CD lists, and on *WBGO88.3FM’s Plays of the Month*. “Playing For Keeps” was in the Top Ten on *JazzWeek’s* national airplay chart, rising to # 6 and a *Plays of the Month*.

“A POWERHOUSE TRIO THAT DELIVERS...The world-class guitarist did not need a warm-up. He came out cooking.”- jazz writer Zan Stewart

“Gorgeous, inventive, a soulful delight. DeVos meshes his teeming tone with the chordal subtleties of Dan Kostelnik and the wide open feeling of drummer Steve Johns.” Elliott Simon, *AllAboutJazz*; “Thumbs Way Up!”- Rick Holland, *Jazz247*