

## THE TEXAS HORNS

### *Get Here Quick*

Severn Records



Not sure that the “Texas” in this ensemble’s handle guides the prospective listener in the right direction. Rather, this material must speak more to the breadth of these musicians’ musical experience. Yes, it’s a big state, but this delightful recording goes beyond its borders, reaching into New Orleans, Memphis, and wherever else music is good.

The super-tight (Texas-based, yes) trio of Kaz Kazanoff (tenor sax), John Mills (baritone sax), and Al Gomez (trumpet) fuels the mostly upbeat (and original) tunes found herein. Additionally, the material benefits from the contributions of several prominent guests, including Ronnie Earl, Anson Funderburgh, John Nemeth, and Curtis Salgado. “Guitar Town” is one offering where Funderburgh handles the lead guitar, with Guy Forsyth providing the lead vocal about pursued romance and a catchy chorus that goes, “Better luck finding some real sweet saxophone in this guitar town.”

With so many jumping jewels on this CD, allow me to choose a few that qualify as personal favorites. These include the soul-enriched “Sundown Talkin’” featuring Salgado’s lead vocal; the instrumental “Funky Ape” which conjures a super chunky, funky feel (embellished by Kaz’s keyboard synthesizer and laced up with guest Johnny Moeller’s guitar); and a slower ballad “Love Is Gone” with Nemeth taking the vocal. Another, titled simply “2018,” is second-line personified with Gomez’s trumpet sparking to the end.

Guest Gary Nicholson contributes the vocals and some guitar on his songs, “Fix Your Face” and “Soulshine” with Earl and

Funderburgh taking the lead on guitars, respectively. "You Can't Be Serious" is Kaz's throbbing, rhythmic take on a dark aspect of contemporary life, namely income disparity.

As is my habit with review copies, I listened to *Get Here Quick* for the first time while puttering around in my office, shuffling papers, paying bills, that sort of thing. To say that the music pulled me out of the depths of these mundane matters is a credit to these brilliant musicians. Get a copy for yourself, but be on guard and don't try paying bills while you listen. That won't work. This happy, joyful recording will cause you to put such earthly tasks aside. This is the second Texas Horns' recording I've reviewed for *Blues Music Magazine* [first was December 2015]. Keep 'em coming. [In May, the Texas Horns backed Jimmie Vaughan who opened for Eric Clapton at the Royal Albert Hall.]

– M.E. Travaglini