

A & E: Black Music Month

Sanborn Music Shaped By Ray Charles

From Paul Butterfield, to Stevie Wonder and David Bowie, to James Taylor, the saxophone on your favorite classic song is probably David Sanborn's.

The five-time Grammy winner, a back-up for some of the biggest music stars, has a new album out called Hearsay. The musical selections join his 14 other solo albums, including six gold and one platinum disc.

Sanborn returns with a complex, impressionistic sound that's no less compelling for its mutating, intricate nature, bringing the percolating, improvisatory funk of the 1992 Up Front album to a new plateau.

"I just try to find the things that I connect to, that make me feel good," Sanborn says, "like what got me into music in the first place, listening to Ray Charles. I just connected to that Music."

Sanborn was 11 at the time. By age 15, he'd managed to endear himself to local St. Louis favorite Little Milton; soon, he was sitting in with R&B players and jazzmen in Gaslight Square.

After graduating from high school he became an established local session player. A stint at Northwestern University was cut short in 1967 when he joined the Butterfield Blues Band, still considered one of the major influences of the 60s.

Sanborn made his Electra records debut in 1991, with the heavily jazz-influenced Another Hand and 1992's gold Upfront, featuring a rollicking, spontaneous take on traditional funk.

"David Sanborn...expands vocabularies by weaving together the disparate threads of great American night music," praised Entertainment Weekly, calling Upfront "a funkified, ear-twisting musical mix in which hip-hop manners meet Booker T. and James Brown."

Hearsay took a similar approach, but with a focus on songs rather than virtuoso jams.

"We found things evolved differently -- I thought it was going to be straightforward, but we found in the studio that a lot of the material didn't lend itself to that," Sanborn said. "We found some kind of continuity after the fact, where the last record evolved from a central point."



Jazz Musician David Sanborn's new album is Hearsay.

Norman Brown Launches New MoJazz Label

Motown Records, in launching its new MoJazz label, took great care in picking the perfect artists to feature on their initial release. Guitarist Norman Brown, whose creative yet accessible style mixes together jazz with r & b, got the company off to a strong start with his impressive debut "Just Between Us." In fact, the CD was #4 on the Billboard Contemporary Jazz Chart, #1 on the MAC Report Jazz Chart, #2 on the R & R NAC chart and #2 on the GAVIN Report Alternative Chart. It sold over 131,000 copies - a very successful sales figure for a jazz album.

Due to the worldwide success of Just Between Us, Norman appeared in concerts in Germany, England and Japan. Among those he toured with are Grover Washington, Jr., Michael Franks, David Benoit, Fourplay, The

Pip-pingtons, George Howard, The Yellowjackets, etc. In Kansas City, he played to a total audience of over 100,000 people.

"The second record, 'After the Storm,' actually shows off more sides of my music in terms of grooves and styles," said the guitarist, "and it also features a bit of my singing. I produced the CD myself and I was able to get sidemen who gave the music sympathetic interpretations."

This multi-faceted set that perfectly fuses r & b and pop rooted in jazz begins with "Take Me There," one of 9 original compositions by Brown.

"This fits into the groovin' side of jazz and is a sort of tribute to Wes Montgomery," he added.

Most people take a long time to discover their purpose in life. Norman

Brown found his when he was just eight.

"My brother has a guitar and I used to play a lot when he wasn't around. Finally, one day he heard me and told me that I did not have to sneak around anymore! I knew right then that I was going to be a professional musician someday: I knew that from the start. When I picked up the guitar for the first time it just touched me, it felt like part of me. That feeling has continued to grow with time," Brown said.

Brown started playing in clubs in his native Kansas City when he was 10 and although he spent some time playing drums, sax and upright bass, the guitar was always his main ax.

Brown's affection for the music he has chosen to play is part of what makes After the Storm very special.

N O R T H W E S T
AFRIKAN AMERICAN BALLET
 TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 1994 • 8:00 P.M.
 PORTLAND CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
 INTERMEDIATE THEATER • ADMISSION: \$15.00

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: PCPA BOX OFFICE AND ALL TICKET MASTER OUTLETS
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 JULY 28 — RANCH ROMANCE
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 AUG. 11 — LAURA LOVE BAND
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VANCOUVER FESTIVAL

A Sanctioned Rose Festival event in the heart of downtown Vancouver, WA.

Outdoor Party Friday, June 17, 4:30pm - Midnight

Featuring
The Temptations - 7:45pm
Mary Wilson of The Supremes - 9:30pm

At Main Stage, corner of Evergreen & Washington
 Advance tickets: \$15.00 • At The Gate: \$18.00
 Tickets available at Fred Meyer FASTIX outlets, Paradise Cafe, Columbia Arts Center

Saturday, June 18, 9:00am - 11:00pm	Sunday, June 19, 10:00am - 6:00pm
Free Admission	Free Admission
9:00am Kids Parade with Alvin & The Chipmunks C Street & E. 13th	3:00pm Curtis Salgado & The Stilettoes Main Stage
1:00pm Brain Waves Improvisational Group Comic Humor Visual Arts Stage	5:00pm Crazy 8's Main Stage
4:00pm Tom Grant Main Stage	Other events appear on four stages throughout the weekend. For a complete list of events, consult the official Vancouver Festival Program Guide.
6:00pm Swing Line Cubs Main Stage	Other events include: Art Avenue - Fine artists on display on various street corners around town. Kids hands-on activities Beer & wine garden Food vendors
8:00pm KWJJ Country Night Main Stage	

Presented by the Vancouver Festival Association (206)693-2978