

Joe DeRose and Amici

Hristo Vitchev

Dann Zinn

Weber Iago

Dan Robbins



Sounds for the Soul

The definition of “amici” literally means “friends” in Italian. The definition I give it is for this band—where great friends, great minds and great souls come together to make great music!

My most sincere gratitude goes to these amazing musicians, Dann Zinn, Hristo Vithcev, Weber Iago, and Dan Robbins for their devotion and incredible performances in telling this story and for truly bringing this music to life! I am truly blessed and grateful to have you all as friends and to have your souls captured on this recording. Thank you, Amici!

I would like to thank God for blessing me with the gift of life, great health, a beautiful family and friends and for the universal communicator and healer—music!

I would like to dedicate this CD to my beautiful family and friends and thank them for a lifetime of love and support! Mom, Gino, Nick Jr., Debby, Gino Jr., Michael, Simon, Emma and all of my extended family on the DeRose, Infelise, Cedolini and Quast sides! Thank you for all you have done for me! I love you with all my mind, body and soul! And finally, a special thank you to my cousin, Don Barnes, for all of his amazing dedication and talent on the design of my album.

Joe DeRose



1. Nick's Legacy 5:43

Dedication to my father Nicholas DeRose, Sr.

Nick was my father whom I was so blessed to have had for 24 years! He touched my life and so many others with his love, warm heart and passion for life. He left so many legacies with us: family values, great food, antipastos, music, laughter—but the most important one to me is the love he left in people's hearts! He will always be missed and never forgotten. We will always love you Dad!



2. The Skies Below* 6:49

3. Tal's Dream 6:48

Dedicated to Talmadge Hicks.

Tal was a great man, great friend and musical mentor to me! He gave me my first Coltrane record to check out, exposed me to jazz at an early age. He was an amazing musician and composer as well. His soulful melodies that he would sing to me growing up were what really inspired the melodies while writing together with Hristo on this CD. He left three talented daughters Erika, Melina and Krystle, and I would also like to pay respects to their beautiful mother, Linda!



4. Bros at Play 7:42

Dedicated to my brothers Gino and Nick and my nephews, Gino Jr. and Michael.

To Gino & Nick, thanks for being the best big bros ever! For Gino for being my first drum teacher and to Nick for always exposing me to great music at an early age. Thank you for all the love and support you have always given me right from the very beginning. To my two awesome nephews Gino Jr. & Michael—you are the best! And to all of the rest of the bros at play out there, you know who you are!



5. Ancient Prayer* 9:46

6. Drum Angel 6:30

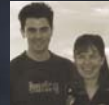
Dedicated to drum legend Louie Bellson.

Louie was also another musical mentor to me. He was not only a musical inspiration to me, but most importantly, he taught me how to conduct myself as a human being! I respected his humble approach on how he lived his life and the kindness he gave towards everyone all of the time! I was blessed and honored to have him as a friend!



7. Tears from Tokyo 5:39

Dedicated to my mother Mary DeRose.



Thanks for being my best friend and for being the best mother that anyone could ever ask for! For teaching me to have compassion and love for people and things! For always listening to my ideas, problems and concerns and always giving me the utmost encouragement and support! I am so blessed to have you for my Mom. I love you Mom!

Hristo and I we very fortunate to be on tour together in Japan last year with our dear friends Matt and Yoco. It was an amazing tour and we met incredible people while having the time of our lives! While we were there, the beginning visions for Hristo's first CD recording, The Hristo Vitchev Quartet, Song for Messambria and this CD were first conceptualized in a coffee shop. I also remember at this point of the trip missing my Mom and trying to use the phone to call her and being unsuccessful in dialing out. Well, it was at this time when the melody for "Tears from Tokyo" came into my head and I sang it to Hristo in the hotel elevator, and I asked him if he could remember it. When we returned to the States he certainly did and then added his beautiful harmonization to it. This was the very beginning of our collaboration as songwriters!

At this point I would like to give a special thanks to Hristo Vitchev for all of his immense talent, dedication and love every step of the way in the creation of this CD. Thank you for everything, Hristo, and most of all for your true friendship! I could not have done this without you!

8. Sounds for the Soul 7:11

9. Miracles** 3:39

I do believe in miracles! The one that I keep praying for, though, is this: imagine if every person on the planet helped one other person on a daily basis. If we all were kind to one another and took care of each other. Think of what a wonderful world it would be! That is a miracle we can all make happen. God bless!

A special thanks to Weber Iago for his beautiful friendship, amazing playing and for co-writing this piece with me to make it truly sound like a Miracle!

All compositions and arrangements by Joe DeRose and Hristo Vitchev except (*) by Hristo Vitchev and (**) by Joe DeRose and Weber Iago.

Thank you for all your support!

Aquarian drumheads
Vater sticks
Pearl drums
Sabian cymbals
Audio-Technica mics
Power Wrist Builders (Terry and Dennis)
San Jose Pro Drum (Jimmy, Paul and friends)
Riverview Systems
The friends of Antipastos Meat, Fish and Deli
The Alum Rock Jazz band family
Archbishop Mitty High School
Berklee College of Music
Groove Nugget (Tim, Matt and Eric)

Gary Mankin
Ken Lee
Open Path Studios
San Jose Jazz
Matt Beasley
Matt Toshima, Yoshiko Oda and Studio Pink House
Keith Kellog
Dr. Alfredo Ramirez
Dr. Hector Cerezo
Dr. Havel
Dr. Yu and staff
Tina from Impressions
My friends at the Alum Rock Starbucks

Thank you to those who have been there for me along this journey!

Karl Carter	Rick Considine	Jason Wall
Bryant Mills	Lenny Nelson	Kevin Bligh
Ken Harrill	Kenwood Dennard	Steve Moretti
Wally Schnalle	Mike Mangini	Mike Suarez
Anthony King	Lewis Nash	Keanu Razonable
Joe Porcaro	Chris Rivelli	Mario Brown
Freddie Grubber	Sergio Bellotti	
John Ramsay	Maurice Miles	

And to every other teacher, mentor, friend and peer who has helped me develop musically and spiritually—you know who you are.

Finally, to my students, thank you for your continued support and dedication to groove and improve!

Songs for the Soul was recorded at Open Path Studios September–November, 2009.

Recorded and mixed by Gary Mankin.

Mastered by Ken Lee.

Cover design and photography by Don Barnes, www.CellarIdeas.com.



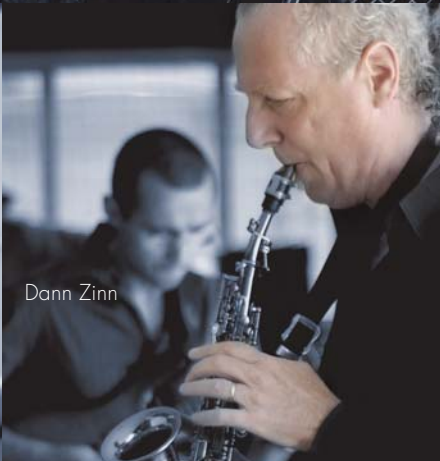
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