

Jazz Society of Oregon

CD Reviews – October 2012

by George Fendel

***Surfboard*, Mike Tracy, tenor and soprano saxophones.**

In the early 1960s, Stan Getz, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Sergio Mendes and many others brought Brazilian music to the United States. At a time when quality music could still enjoy wide popularity, bossa nova and the sounds of Brazil did just that. Tracy has made “more than ten trips to Brazil.” With such an itinerary, he has familiarized himself with these Brazilian “hits.” With deep respect for that country's talented musicians he's worked with, Tracy includes four of them on this session. The tunes are mostly lesser-known in this country, but three in particular may ring a familiar bell. “Recado Bossa Nova” has become a near standard in the American book, and Jobim's “Surfboard” is an energetic winner with a distinct melody line. “Love Theme from Cinema Paradiso” is a tender and beautiful entry deserving of wider exposure. These and all of the others, express Brazil's passion for life, and Tracy and friends express themselves with vitality. *Summit; 2012; appx. 70 minutes.*