

WOLF MARSHALL TRIO

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The Wolf Marshall Trio delivers an inimitable brand of soulful swinging bluesy jazz



Wolf Marshall Trio Playing for the ears from the heart

by Mark Stefani

The Wolf Marshall Trio is unique and unmistakable.

Where else do you get the bluesy hard bop edge of soulful organ groups from the golden age of modern jazz mixed with funky R&B and sweet standards of the Great American Songbook? Where else can you get a greasy blues a la T-Bone Walker or the jocular theme from Austin Powers followed by a Miles Davis classic, something from Wes Montgomery and a jazzy reading of “Tres Palabras”? What other group freely and successfully mixes gritty Chicago blues with sultry Brazilian sounds, sophisticated New York-bred bebop, strutting

boogaloo grooves and lilting Latin numbers? And what other group around has captured, harnessed and improved upon the timeless vibe and timbre of the classic guitar-led Hammond organ-based trios of old? Nowhere else and no one else. Certainly not in their native North County San Diego.

The Wolf Marshall Trio is a tight three-piece band built around the colorful and multifarious talents of Wolf Marshall (guitar), Jack Hill (organ) and Roger Karlsson (drums). The trio grew out of the band collective at the La Costa Resort in Carlsbad, California, where Wolf has been performing for the

last three years in lineups from sextets to duos.

Wolf Marshall is a household name to guitarists and musicians internationally. Jack Hill and Roger Karlsson have performed with countless name acts and artists. Together, they present a powerful alliance forged around Wolf’s warm vintage L5 guitar tone and Jack’s equally vintage and soulful Hammond Organ sounds.

The Wolf Marshall Trio has just completed an eight-month run at the world famous La Costa Resort, where they’ve been knocking ‘em dead in the Bluefire Bar & Grill every Friday night.

Wolf Marshall Trio Songs

“Jeannine” Cannonball Adderley
“One Note Samba” Antonio Carlos Jobim
“Sonny Moon For Two” Sonny Rollins
“Tres Palabras”
“Four” Miles Davis
“Take Five” Paul Desmond
“Four On Six” Wes Montgomery
“Unit Seven” Adderley
“Emily”
“Well You Needn’t” Thelonious Monk
“Willow Weep For Me”
“Back At The Chicken Shack” Jimmy Smith
“Stormy Monday” T-Bone Walker
“Nica’s Dream” Horace Silver
“Tune Up” Davis
“Days Of Wine & Roses” Henry Mancini
“Sugar” Stanley Turrentine
“Killer Joe” Benny Golson
“Soul Bossa Nova” Quincy Jones
“Clouds” Sergio Mendes/Adderley
“Round Midnight” Monk
“Just Friends”
“Gone With The Wind”
“Love Letters”
“Serenata”
“Yesterdays”
“Here’s That Rainy Day”
“The Preacher” Silver
“Guess I’ll Hang My Tears Out To Dry”

“We honor the tradition of bluesy swinging jazz and play the songs and grooves that made the organ trio such a vital and adventurous medium in music.”

Wolf Marshall Trio

“What Is This Thing Called Love”
“All Blues” Davis
“Midnight Special Blues” Smith
“There Will Never Be Another You”
“Stella By Starlight”
“Wave” Jobim
“Song For My Father” Silver
“Shiny Stockings” Count Basie
“Don’t Get Around Much” Duke Ellington
“Misty” Errol Garner
“All The Things You Are”
“Take The A Train” Ellington
“Bluesette” Toots Thielmans
“The Odd Couple”
“What A Wonderful World” Louis Armstrong
“God Bless The Child” Billie Holiday
“Soon”
“I Remember You”
“Fly Me To The Moon”
“All Of Me”
“Night In Tunisia” Dizzy Gillespie
“Summertime”

The Wolf Marshall Trio in action. (L)

Guest vocalist Linda Hill joins the trio at every performance and mesmerizes the crowd with her brand of blues, funk, ballads and swing tunes. (R)





“We believe when we cook on the bandstand we ought to use the best and most flavorful ingredients, like a chef in a fine dining room. That’s why we opt for the vintage sounds with the vintage tools. The customers may not always know what they’re hearing technically but they do recognize and appreciate the authentic tones and timbres.”

Wolf Marshall Trio



Sound Reasoning The tools of the trade

By Mark Stefani

Vintage authenticity and attention to detail are as present in the choice of instruments for the Wolf Marshall Trio as in the music itself. Founding members Jack Hill and Wolf Marshall of the group recently spoke of their love for the musicians they have admired over the years and the means by which the greats made those beautiful sounds.

Among their passions and declarations is the ardent love for the kind of gear used in the golden days by their idols and role models, Kenny Burrell, Jimmy Smith, Wes Montgomery, Jack McDuff, George Benson, Larry Young, Grant Green, Don Patterson, Pat Martino, Groove Holmes, Joe Pass and others, to craft similar sounds. That directly translates into their penchant for real Hammond organs, Leslie speaker cabinets, vintage arch-top electric guitars, and period-correct amplification. No plastic synthesizers, samplers, computers, modeling units or

wannabe axes here. This is the real deal. Jack plays his Hammond B-3 organ built in 1954 with a Leslie rotating speaker cabinet from 1951. Accordingly, Wolf plugs his 1964 Gibson L5CES guitar into a 1965 Fender Twin-Reverb amplifier. Both musicians extoll the virtues of all-tube technology and the resultant warmth it imparts to the music.

Photos by Rick Gould