

“So Far...” A Collaborative CD Project

The process of pulling musicians together to collaborate online to produce a new jazz CD of original material started in January of 2021 when John Paulson received a Minnesota State Arts Board grant supporting creative artists during the Covid 19 pandemic. The grant was called “Jazz Online During a Pandemic.” The goal was to collaborate online with other artists from all over the country to produce a new CD with varying styles represented. After considering possible songs for the CD, the group started to investigate what technology they would use to synchronize tracks and come up with rough mixes. A potential song list was then prioritized and they went to work determining which musicians would perform on each selection. Each musician then contributed their own track(s) with home recording gear while listening to a reference track submitted by the composer. Synchronization was definitely an issue but after much editing, they were able to produce a set of rough mixes. Finally, at the end of a nearly year long process, six selections were brought to Brett Huus of Soundstrations studio in La Crosse, WI for final mixing and mastering. Ultimately, 12 musicians from 4 states and 8 different Cities contributed. The resulting CD “So Far...” is set for a March 2022 release and world-wide distribution by CDbaby.com which includes real CDs as well as digital downloads.

The John Paulson Group

“So Far...”

John C. Paulson (tenor sax & Bb flute) Winona, MN

Dave Lamoreux (flugelhorn & trumpet) Seattle, WA

Mike James (guitar) La Crosse, WI

Scott Gerry (guitar) Minneapolis, MN

A. Eric Heukeshoven (keyboards) Winona, MN

Bert Dalton (piano) Rio Rancho, NM

Larry Dalton (bass) La Crosse, WI

Eric Graham (fretless bass) Red Wing, MN

Denny McGuire (electric bass) Rollingstone, MN

Rich MacDonald (drums & percussion) Winona, MN

Miles Johnston (drums & cajón) Lake City, MN

Jeff Strom (percussion, vibes, & steel drums) Fountain City, WI

Brett Huus: Mix & Mastering Soundstrations La Crosse, WI