

According to Dave Brubeck, the great composer Darius Milhaud, with whom the young pianist-composer studied in the 1940s, "told me to travel the world and keep my ears open." Little did Milhaud suspect just how far Brubeck's travels would take him as leader of the Dave Brubeck quartet, one of the best loved jazz groups of all time. Of course, little did Brubeck (b. 1920) know that one day he would parlay his peregrinations into a recurring mini-theme of "Jazz Impressions" albums, beginning with 1956's *Jazz Impressions Of The U.S.A.* and continuing through *Eurasia* (1958), this reissue (1964), and *Mexico* (although the 1967 LP delving into the music of our southern neighbor was titled *Bravo! Brubeck!*)

Long out of print and reissued here for the first time on CD, *Jazz Impressions Of Japan* is, as Brubeck observes in his liner notes, "...music we have prepared (that) tries to convey these minute but lasting impressions, somewhat in the manner of classical haiku, wherein the poet expects the reader to feel the scene himself as an experience." Brubeck and cohorts have accomplished this by skillfully integrating the timbres and scales, sights and sounds, of Nippon into the composer's themes and the individual solos, with those of alto saxophonist Paul Desmond especially meditative.

Newly remastered, and with a reminiscence by Brubeck, *Jazz Impressions Of Japan* restores one of the hidden gems of Brubeck's catalogue.



- 1 **Tokyo Traffic** 5:52
- 2 **Rising Sun** 4:40
- 3 **Toki's Theme** 2:08
(from the CBS-TV series, "Mr. Broadway")
- 4 **Fujiyama** 5:03
- 5 **Zen Is When** 2:53
- 6 **The City Is Crying** 6:01
- 7 **Osaka Blues** 5:09
- 8 **Koto Song** 3:01

DAVE BRUBECK - PIANO

PAUL DESMOND - ALTO SAX

EUGENE WRIGHT - BASS

JOE MORELLO - DRUMS

ORIGINAL RECORDINGS PRODUCED BY TEO MACERO

REISSUE PRODUCED BY DIDIER C. DEUTSCH,

DARCY M. PROPER AND RUSSELL GLOYD

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