

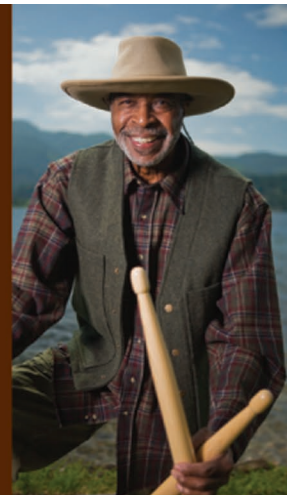
It's about time Stix Hooper got back into the studio.

Stix's other love, he tells me, is fishing. This collection of tunes based on rivers, lakes and oceans where one might cast a line is as rich and varied as the waters of the world, and the treasures they hold.

The opening romp through the Duke Ellington/Peggy Lee song "I'm Gonna Go Fishing" is a guaranteed smile-maker, as is the lovely bossa nova, "Little Boat." Tadd Dameron's classic, "Good Bait," gets a thorough work-out, and the interplay between Stix and pianist Taylor Eigsti is nothing short of brilliant.

Throughout this recording are prime examples of Stix's mastery of blues-tinged swing. It's basic, it's elemental, it's as natural as breathing...and just as we've been told, nothing happens without it. Seriously, NOTHING. This is a delightful project. Enjoy!

Robin Lloyd, Mid Day Jazz and Blues, 88.5 KPLU Seattle, kplu.org



SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

To my G girl (Gretchen),

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the love, support, inspiration, encouragement and enthusiasm that is given to me from the pillar and love of my life. Her input helped to create a new positive chapter of my creativity, musical expression and has also given me a firm sense of responsibility and alignment to our world, our environment and humanity. Thanks, G.

Stix

Executive Producer, Gretchen Garth
Engineered by Franz Pusch, VR Sound Corp.
Recorded at Glenwood Place Studios, Burbank, California, USA and Firehouse Studios, Pasadena, California, USA;
Mixed at Glenwood Sound Studios, Burbank, California, USA by Franz Pusch.
Mastering: Stephen Marsh Mastering under the supervision of Franz Pusch; Hollywood, California, USA.
Graphic Design, Michele Zuzalek Design.
Photography, Robin Bartholick.
Special Thanks to Kit Rebhun and staff, Glenwood Place Studios, Burbank, California, USA.
Produced by Stix Hooper for Stix Hooper Enterprises.
Production Assistant, Brenda Vanderloop.
Stix Hooper uses Pearl Drums, Zildjian Cymbals and ProMark Drumsticks exclusively.



MAINSTREAM STRAIGHT-AHEAD STIX HOOPER

1. I'M GONNA GO FISHIN' 5:50 – Duke Ellington, Peggy Lee
2. LITTLE BOAT 5:06 – Ronald Boscoli, Roberto Menescal
3. GOOD BAIT 4:07 – T. Dameron, C. Basie
4. RIVER STAY AWAY FROM MY DOOR 5:51 – Mort Dixon, Harry Woods
5. WADE IN THE WATER 5:04 – Traditional
6. ROW, ROW, ROW 2:15 – Traditional
7. UP A LAZY RIVER 4:00 – Hoagy Carmichael, Sidney Arodin
8. PIER PRESSURE BLUES 3:54 – Stix Hooper
9. HOW DEEP IS THE OCEAN 6:20 – Irving Berlin
10. MOON RIVER 7:08 – Henry Mancini, Johnny Mercer
11. DEEP RIVER 3:09 – Traditional
12. SWAN LAKE (Theme) 5:07 – Tchaikovsky



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STIX HOOPER MAINSTREAM STRAIGHT-AHEAD STIX HOOPER ENTERPRISES SHE003



STIX HOOPER MAINSTREAM STRAIGHT-AHEAD

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| <p>1. I'm Gonna Go Fishin' 5:50 Duke Ellington, Peggy Lee Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass.</p> | <p>6. Row, Row, Row 2:15 Traditional Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass; Paul Viapiano, Guitar.</p> | <p>9. How Deep Is The Ocean 6:20 – Irving Berlin Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass.</p> |
| <p>2. Little Boat (O Barquinho) 5:06 Ronald Boscoli, Roberto Menescal Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass; Paul Viapiano, Guitar.</p> | <p>7. Up a Lazy River 4:00 Hoagy Carmichael, Sidney Arodin Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass.</p> | <p>10. Moon River 7:08 Henry Mancini, Johnny Mercer Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass.</p> |
| <p>3. Good Bait 4:07 T. Dameron, C. Basie Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass.</p> | <p>8. Pier Pressure Blues 3:54 Stix Hooper Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass. Ensemble: Oscar Brashear, Jumaane Smith, Dr. James Ford, Trumpets; George Bohanon, Ryan Porter, Trombones; Jeffery Clayton, Alto Saxophone; Rickey Woodard, Tenor Saxophone; Keith Fiddmont, Tenor Saxophone; Ernie Fields Jr., Baritone Saxophone. Arranger: Phil Wright.</p> | <p>11. Deep River 3:09 – Traditional Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass; Phil Wright, Piano; Oscar Brashear, Trumpet; Del Atkins, Bass. Vocals: Radiant Voices, directed by Kevin O'Neal; Mashariki Ramey, Wanda Elaine, Sotti Austin, Meghan Hooper*, Tanayi Seabrook, Karen Evans, Jeff Robinson, Billi Redd Thedford, Kevin O'Neal & Barbara Morrison. *Meghan Hooper is the talented daughter of Stix Hooper.</p> |
| <p>4. River Stay Away From My Door 5:51 Mort Dixon, Harry Woods Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass.</p> | <p>5. Wade In The Water 5:04 Traditional Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano/Keyboards; Harish Raghavan, Bass; Paul Viapiano, Guitar.</p> | <p>12. Swan Lake (Theme) 5:07 Tchaikovsky Stix Hooper, Drums/Percussion; Taylor Eigsti, Piano; Harish Raghavan, Bass; Joel Scott, Keyboards and String Programming.</p> |

Stix presents an impassioned concept in this compilation of tunes around his joy of fishing and prowess as a musician. Enjoy.
Gretchen Garth, Executive Producer

As I reflect on the inspiration and the recording of this project, I am emotionally charged and very happy that it is now a reality.

These are musical reflections of images, experiences, and of many moments that have shaped my life, my musicianship, my ideology, and my overall approach to living. Being raised on the Gulf Coast in the United States of America, access to water in most forms was like my backyard. Thanks to my father I was introduced to the delectations and intrinsic values of fishing. As I began to travel all around the world, I became motivated and compelled to always seek similar surroundings.

Fishing and relating to water, which takes up over two thirds of our planet, has entrenched me with a different set of values and a significant respect and understanding of our world, our environment, our place, our responsibilities, and has given me a template for our co-existence with the inhabitants of our earth, that dwell on land, water and air.

In these musical expressions, I sincerely hope that you enjoy our approach to these water related compositions as it was my intention to create somewhat programmatically basic moods and abstract perceptions in a primarily improvisatory, spontaneous, musical setting for you to ruminate. Let your imagination flow!

This recording is dedicated to the late Charlie (Chuck) Niles, also known as BeBop Charlie, one of Jazz's outstanding radio personalities. He was my friend and a friend to many, many musicians, Jazz supporters and appreciators. One of his bylines was, "mainstream straight ahead."

Stix Hooper, Producer

