

Bryant Fabian Marsalis do for you?

FYC

- Best Jazz Instrumental Album
- Best Album Notes by Kabir Sehgal

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Album notes:

do for you? is a sizzling album featuring saxophonist and vocalist **Lance Bryant**, bassist **Christian Fabian**, and drummer **Jason Marsalis**. It showcases **original works by Bryant and Fabian, with a tune by Marsalis**, as well as works by **Victor Lewis** and **Antonio Carlos Jobim**; the trio's collective mastery and virtuosity as jazz musicians is consistently front and center. The album opens with **Five Minute Blues**, showing the group's improvisatory prowess in the iconic blues form. Written by Fabian, the blues melody is simple and catchy, and the Band masters the call and response phrases before impressive saxophone and bass solos. Up next is **Never Again**, written by Marsalis, an uptempo swing tune that features Bryant's blazing saxophone sound on the melody, punctuated expertly by Marsalis on the drums. Bryant's **Of A Certain Age** slows things down, taking on a classic jazz ballad feel and featuring organist **Gates Thomas** and Bryant on vocals. The tune takes on a wonderfully nostalgic tone as the lyrics beg the question: when did I become that guy of a certain age? Truly, **Of A Certain Age** can easily pass for a jazz standard, both because of the nostalgic ballad feel of the composition and the artful performance by the trio. Bryant's **The Cat Hatter** picks up the pace again, taking on a playful and upbeat bebop feel. The Band never loses its tightness, even through the solo form, which is punctuated with impressive solo fills from Marsalis. Bryant's compositional facility shines through in this tune. Fabian's **do for you?** opens with a bluesy solo bassline that showcases the bassist's gloriously clear pizzicato technique before the sax and drums come in. Jobim's **If You Never Come To Me** features Bryant on vocals, and **Gates Thomas** on Rhodes; this track features an entirely new sound and feel for the Band as the Brazilian composer's voice and roots shine through in this interpretation of the song. Marsalis does a particularly skillful job at bringing Brazilian rhythms and timbres to this track. **If You Never Come To Me** is a cornerstone of this album, and an apt display of the expansive multi-genre capabilities that these musicians possess. Fabian's **Resolvence Of The Old** begins with a contemplative and virtuosic bass solo; this solo showcases Fabian's technique once again with double-stop pizz, pitch bends, and grooves that treat the listener to an emotionally rich sonic experience before the drums and saxophone come in, taking an unexpectedly uptempo swing feel for the remainder of the composition. **Weather Forecast** is a collaborative composition—composed by all three members of the trio, this track features an unrelenting and funky drum and bass groove and angular, blazing saxophone melody. This tune, with features reminiscent of jazz-funk fusion artists like **Herbie Hancock**, sends a clear message to the listener: These artists have not only mastered every corner of the tradition (as seen in every track that has come before this one); they can do anything. **Weather Forecast** is one of the unexpected pleasures of this album. With **Moxie Inside**, the penultimate track on this album, the Band keeps the innovation coming. This composition, another fusion number, is composed by Bryant. **Moxie Inside** is full of bright groove and attitude that leaves us with a fresh and current feeling as it mixes funk grooves with a hip-hop feel or two, and features the virtuosic Bryant on saxophone for both melody and solo, with a groovy solo for Fabian. The album closes with iconic drummer **Victor Lewis'** composition, **Hey, It's Me You're Talkin' To**. This blazingly fast, virtuosic hard bop tune showcases yet another facet of the group's virtuosity—their lightning speed interpretation of this composition is as quick and exciting as it is clean. It's easy for a tune like this to get sloppy or lose its energy and fire, but the group never does—not even through extreme shifts in dynamics. In fact, after an arresting and primal drum solo by Marsalis, the Band comes back in, but at a pianissimo dynamic that is symbolic of the journey this album has taken us on. The Band has kept us on our toes for all ten tracks, played on our expectations, and surprised us through and through. With a closing tune like this, one expects the song to end with a bang, but it ends quietly. Nonetheless, even the quiet ending carries the fire of the tune and the entire album through with it, causing the listener to be left feeling wowed by the album and the group.

— Kabir Sehgal

New York City, June 2017

Bryant Fabian Marsalis do for you?

LANCE BRYANT SAX & VOCALS
CHRISTIAN FABIAN BASS
JASON MARSALIS DRUMS
special guest GATES THOMAS KEYS



1	Five Minute Blues	Christian Fabian	4:39
2	Never Again	Jason Marsalis	5:14
3	Of A Certain Age	Lance Bryant	6:21
4	The Cat Hatter	Lance Bryant	6:07
5	Do For You?	Christian Fabian	5:49
6	If You Never Come to Me*	Antonio Carlos Jobim	6:25
7	Resolvence of the Old	Christian Fabian	6:30
8	Weather Forecast	Bryant/Fabian/Marsalis	5:46
9	Moxie Inside	Lance Bryant	6:21
10	Hey, It's Me You're Talking To†	Victor Lewis	4:30

Total Playing time 58:04

Lance Bryant tenor sax & vocals
Christian Fabian bass
Jason Marsalis drums

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© Lil' Man Jake Publishing

* © Corcovado Music Corp • † © Camille Music

Special Guest: Gates Thomas on keys: Tracks 3 & 6

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Photo John Maliner

Graphics O'Mara Leary

Linear notes Grammy Award winner Kabir Sehgal

Special thanks to all our families, friends and fans,
Mike Longo, Ron Carter & Lee Greene



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Reviews:

Roots great jazz...Jason's solid drum work, Lance Bryant's superb tenor sax and vocals and beautiful bass from Christian Fabian...I give this splendid jazz set a MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED — [contemporaryfusionreviews](#)

...killer jazz trio of saxophonist Lance Bryant, drummer Jason Marsalis, and bassist Christian Fabian have teamed up to release Do For You?...From a greasy swing to a New Orleans inspired jam to a hip-hop groove, Fabian drives the songs from the bass chair —[notreble.com](#)

...they have a verve and swing that indicate an era in which bop was young and fresh, and jazz audiences would clamor for it —[lemonwire.com](#)

It's a special kind of record that makes you feel like anything can happen even though you know you're listening to something in a fixed media. These three cats take you on a tour of after hours jazz sounds, often improvised, that make you feel like what it was to listen to something going on under the bridge. So old school that moldy figs will be the first to hit the buy button on Amazon, you can almost see them shoo-ing the hipsters away from their turf...Hot stuff. —[midwestrecord.com](#)

Even the cover of this album...draws memory to the good old days...No, it's not a jazz retro, it's quality modern jazz, based, however, on time-tested hard-bop recipes. Each of the participants of the trio has enough experience and skill to make these recipes work. —[jazzquad.ru](#)

...this is fine contemporary jazz, comprising mostly original compositions and performed by three highly talented musicians. —[allaboutjazz.com](#)

Lance Bryant's horn is steeped in blues. His melodies are crisp and succinct. No sliding to notes or squeaking tones. This reedman is virtuosic...This is a unique project by three uniquely gifted musicians. —[musicalmemoirs](#)