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RIFFTIDES

Doug Ramsey on jazz and other matters...

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July 24, 2007

DVD: Miroslav Vitous

Miroslav Vitous, *Live in Vienna* (MVD Visual, Quantum Leap). Another in the Quantum Leap series featuring bassists in club performance at Vienna's Porgy and Bess. This time, it's Vitous, the Czech bassist who materialized in New York in 1967 and quickly became embedded with leading players in the US jazz scene. He was one of the founders of Weather Report. Now a veteran solo concertizer, his repertoire in this concert reflects his eclecticism with variations on Beethoven, Dvorak, Miles Davis, Victor Young and Jewish music, not to mention a pastiche of opera themes. Pianist Fritz Pauer and drummer John Hollenbeck--Porgy and Bess regulars--support Vitous with their customary attentiveness.

Posted by dramsey at July 24, 2007 1:03 AM

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ABOUT...

...Rifftides

This blog is founded on Doug's conviction that musicians and listeners who embrace and understand jazz have interests that run deep, wide and beyond jazz. Music is its principal concern, but it reaches past... [more](#)

...Doug Ramsey

Doug lives in the Pacific Northwest, where he settled following a career in print and broadcast journalism in cities including New York, New Orleans, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, San Antonio, Cleveland and Washington, DC. His writing about jazz has paralleled his life in journalism. [more](#)

...Doug's Books

Doug's most recent book is [Take Five: The Public and Private Lives of Paul Desmond](#). He is also the author of [Jazz Matters: Reflections on the Music and Some of its Makers](#). He contributed to [The Oxford Companion to Jazz](#) and co-edited [Journalism Ethics: Why Change?](#) His next book is a novel that has almost nothing to do with music.

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DOUG'S PICKS

CD: Sue Raney

Sue Raney, [Heart's Desire: A Tribute To Doris Day](#) (Fresh Sound). After too long, a new collection by a magnificent singer. See this [Rifftides](#) review for details.

CD: Tom Harrell

Tom Harrell, [Light On](#) (High Note). Another artist who takes his time between releases, the trumpeter and uncompromising composer is worth waiting for. *Light On* has nine new Harrell tunes, his deep solo explorations, the muscularity of Wayne Escoffery's tenor saxophone and a fine young rhythm section. The intriguing "Sky Life" could capture the kind of attention Harrell achieved eighteen years ago with "Sail

