

## LET'S FACE THE MUSIC AND DANCE



On their second release as a unit, this Italian guitar trio offers a well-planned, well-executed program of adventurous straight-ahead playing. Although their repertory consist of standards by Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hart, and Billy Strayhorn, along with four originals that fit in well, the group's treatment of the material demonstrates a willingness to try different approaches.

The melody of "**Chelsea Bridge**" is announced by the bass before shifting to guitar and back (the bassist also gets the first chorus), while "**The Most Beautiful Girl in the World**" is enlivened by fascinating metrical ambiguities. And you never know what method of delineating the beat they'll use - straight four (or three), two-beat, a sort of stop-time, "none of the above", or some combination. But the beat is always there.

Guitarist Gibellini and bassist Tavolazzi produce fine tones on their instruments and possess more than enough technique to serve their inventive improvisational conceptions. Their solos include up-tempo Hard Bop forays on "**Everything I've Got**" as well as the guitarist's down and dirty wailing on his own slow blues "**Something Old**".

Drummer Beggio lights a fire on his feature, the blazing "From This Moment On".

David Franklin

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