

organissimo

joe gloss

randy marsh

jim alfredson

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"Combine Alfredson's knack for choosing just the right color and tone in any given composition with his colleagues' ability to match his gestures, and you have **one of the most promising organ trios in jazz.**"

~ Howard Reich, *Chicago Tribune*

"Lansing, Michigan based organissimo... somewhat self-deprecatingly refers to itself as a bar band. But the group goes well beyond that as it **stretches the boundaries of the traditional organ trio** with bits of funk, blues, Latin, groove and New Orleans influences."

~ Ed Trefzger, *JazzWeek*

"Gloss provides chewy chords and measured melodies as a foil to Alfredson's blistering, extroverted style; running with the current fashion that **weds mainstream jazz and jam-band soul**, Alfredson plays just recklessly enough, committing tiny acts of arson that keep things hot but don't quite bring the house down around his ears."

~ Neil Tesser, *Chicago Reader*

"Alfredson handles the organ duties with panache, guitarist Gloss' solos and accompaniment mesh wonderfully and drummer Marsh lays down a red carpet of boogie with veteran authority. **There's nothing too complicated about organissimo's approach:** It's music that reminds of saxophonist Johnny Griffin's aphorism that jazz is music for people who have decided to feel good in spite of conditions."

~ Mark Stryker, *Detroit Free Press*

"Organ aficionados should consider [organissimo] a red alert."

~ Larry Hollis, *Cadence Magazine*

"organissimo... hits the spot in so many ways. **Funky, soulful... Old School... New Attitude... a real modern organ trio sound!**"

~ Eric Cohen, *Music Director WAER-FM, Syracuse, NY*

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ORGANISSIMO'S "THIS IS THE PLACE" NAMED AS ONE OF THE BEST RELEASES OF 2005 BY NUMEROUS RADIO STATIONS AND NEWSPAPERS

Album Also Wins Two 2005 WYCE Jammie Awards

Lansing, MI – **organissimo's** highly acclaimed sophomore album, *This Is The Place*, which enjoyed heavy national airplay and received glowing reviews by critics, has been named one of the **Best Releases of 2005** by several jazz radio stations and newspapers around the country. These include Jim Wilke's Jazz After Hours program (nationally syndicated on over 60 NPR stations), WBEZ in Chicago, WEMU in Ann Arbor, WHRV in Virginia Beach, WBLV Blue Lake Public Radio, WLNZ in Lansing, KXJS in Sacramento, WYCE in Grand Rapids, WICR in Indianapolis, the Detroit MetroTimes, and the Lansing City Pulse. *This Is The Place* also took home two awards at the 7th Annual 2005 WYCE Jammies, including Best Jazz Album and the coveted Best Album Of The Year.

This Is The Place reached the #19 spot on the JazzWeek Top-50 jazz chart measuring airplay around the US, after debuting at #29. It had been "Chartbound" for 2 weeks at America's leading jazz radio trade publication. At college radio *This Is The Place* was the #1 debuting jazz CD at #28 on the CMJ Top-40 jazz chart the week of its release, and moved up 13 positions to #15 the following week. It eventually stayed in the CMJ Top-10 for four weeks, peaking at #4. It was also featured on both Neil Tesser's nationally syndicated NPR program "Listen Here!" during a segment devoted to Hammond B3 music. And one of the tracks from the CD was selected for the NPR series "Open Mic", *All Songs Considered's* web showcase.

Comments from radio programmers around the country, as well as reviews of the CD in the All Music Guide, The Chicago Reader, All About Jazz, and The Chicago Tribune (among others) praise **organissimo's** originality, their fresh sound, and their wide appeal.

Not content with simply imitating the great organ groups of yesteryear, *This Is The Place* naturally extends the legacy of the organ trio in new and exciting directions. **organissimo's** focus on original compositions and a true ensemble arrangement sets the group apart from the standard organ trio.

Organist and bandleader Jim Alfredson (Lansing, MI) began composing his own music at the age of eight and at sixteen dedicated himself solely to the Hammond B3. In 1997 he met guitarist Joe Gloss (Lansing, MI), who also started playing at the age of eight. They co-led various groups before meeting drummer Randy Marsh (Grand Rapids, MI), a veteran of the west-Michigan jazz scene, in November of 2000. **organissimo** was born and very quickly became the premier jazz trio in the region.

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Jim Alfredson (*Lansing, MI*) comes from a musical family. His father earned a living as a professional musician for many years and encouraged Jim's talents from a very young age. Some of Jim's earliest memories include pulling on the drawbars of his father's Hammond B3 at the age of four.

Jim began writing his own songs at the age of 8 on a Yamaha organ. A plethora of synthesizers and multitrack machines followed until he came full circle at age 17 and began lusting after the sound of the Hammond organ once again. Jim has immersed himself in the mighty B3 ever since, dedicated to the goal of uncovering new directions within the tradition of the organ trio.

He is also the organist and musical director of the award-winning Root Doctor band, one of Michigan's premier rhythm & blues groups.

Joe Gloss (*Lansing, MI*) picked up a guitar at the age of 8 to learn bluegrass and never looked back. His musical journey has carried him through many genres before finally settling into jazz in the early 1990s.

Joe is known for his melodic, thoughtful phrasing and almost zen-like calm on stage. His varied musical background makes him adept in almost any style but he found his true musical voice studying jazz and classical guitar.

Joe's strengths, including his beautiful harmonic sense and exquisite writing, are the perfect complement with the rest of the group, pushing organissimo in new and dramatic directions.

Randy Marsh (*Grand Rapids, MI*) is known throughout the state as the drummer of choice. His resume is distinguished and long but he has never rested on his well-deserved laurels. With organissimo, Randy has found another outlet for his experience, his endless creativity, and his positive spirituality.

Randy comes from a musical family as well. His father, Arno Marsh, played tenor in Woody Herman's Thundering Herd, Stan Kenton's big band, and in Buddy Rich's band. And he is still a staple of the Las Vegas big band scene after over 50 years. But Randy credits his mother, local jazz singer Mary Lou Marsh, for giving him a deep love of jazz.

Randy has been drumming for almost 40 years and shows no sign of slowing down. Indeed, he is at the peak of his playing with organissimo, bringing fire and intensity as well as his trademark sense of humor.

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Discography

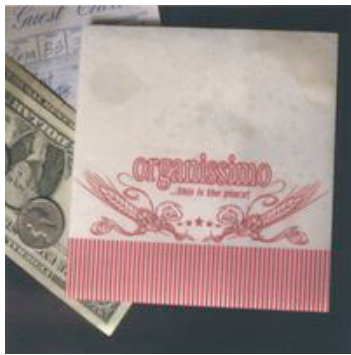


Waiting For The Boogaloo Sisters...

PKO Records 020

with special guest Ron Blake

2003



This Is The Place

Big O Records 2404

with special guests Johnny Gist & Bill Vits

2005

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