

# Skip & Dan Wilkins **Quartet**

## *In the Stars*

Veteran pianist and composer **Skip Wilkins** and rising saxophonist **Dan Wilkins** come together again on their new recording *In The Stars*. The album draws inspiration from Skip's period of Covid-19 isolation, and rejoices in the ability to gather together once more in creation of beautiful moments of music-making. *In the Stars* presents audiences with recordings of stellar arrangements and performances of Great American Songbook compositions that have, until now, largely been lost to the sands of time. The album is dedicated to the great NEA Jazz Master Phil Woods whom Skip had the opportunity to play with frequently and for many years as a member of the Festival Orchestra.

For 14 months in 2020 - 2021, Skip Wilkins found himself in the midst of Covid-19-imposed lockdown at his home in the Delaware Water Gap. Wilkins' unlikely living situation (atop the historic Deer Head Inn, the oldest running jazz club in the country - which Wilkins refers to as his 'living room') served as a constant reminder of the state of the live-music landscape. With the dormant venue beneath his feet, Wilkins was left with nothing-but free time to ruminate on his illustrious musical past, including fourteen previous album releases as a leader or co-leader, decades of U.S. performances, and years of steady touring throughout Europe, along with his most recent venture - a joyous quartet recording alongside his son and his long-time rhythm section which was set to be released later that year in 2020. Wilkins made the decision to delay the release of *In the Stars* until a time when we can gather again to celebrate the joys of live music. That time is here, and in the words of Wilkins, "It's great to be back."

The notion of breathing new life to underappreciated yet classic songs is nothing new for Wilkins, as the pianist indicates: "...truthfully, it is one that has consumed me since I was a little boy, before I could ever have comprehended the future scope and trajectory of my life and career. It has been *In the Stars* for a very long time. During the last decade, I have found special delight in unearthing new-old material that isn't being played and recorded constantly." During the lockdown, Wilkins added hundreds of new songs to his collection. "It is my life-long pursuit. There's so much great music out there, and our quartet loves exploring the many gems of this repertoire."



DEER HEAD  
RECORDS

LYDIA LIEBMAN  
PROMOTIONS//

NEW RELEASE

Title: *In The Stars*

Artist: Skip & Dan Wilkins Quartet

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File Under: Jazz

PUBLICITY

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DEER HEAD™ RECORDS presents

Skip & Dan Wilkins  
**Quartet**

*In the Stars*



Featuring:

**Skip Wilkins** piano

**Dan Wilkins** saxophone

**Tony Marino** bass

**Bill Goodwin** drums



**1. I Walk with Music** (6:23)

Hoagy Carmichael & Johnny Mercer

**2. Lost in the Stars** (6:53)

Kurt Weill & Maxwell Anderson

**3. I'll Never Smile Again** (5:39)

Ruth Lowe

**4. Sweet Georgia Fame** (4:38)

Blossom Dearie & Sandra Harris

**5. Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?** (6:34)

Jay Gorney & E.Y. "Yip" Harburg

**6. Brigas nunca mais** (5:18)

Antônio Carlos Jobim & Vinícius de Moraes

**7. I'm Making Believe** (5:53)

James V. Monaco & Mack Gordon

**8. I Was So Young** (4:53)

George Gershwin & Irving Caesar

**9. Why Do I Love You?** (4:47)

Jerome Kern & Oscar Hammerstein II