

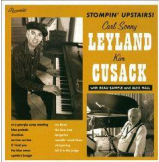
## Carl Leyland & Kim Cusack - Stompin' Upstairs (2013)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 10 September 2014 15:46 -

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### Carl Leyland & Kim Cusack - Stompin' Upstairs (2013)



01. *At Georgia Camp Meeting* (4:18) 02. *Blue Prelude* (5:15) 03. *Cherokee* (4:30) 04. *Corrina Corrina* (3:27) 05. *If I Had You* (4:50) 06. *The Blue Room* (4:14) 07. *Upstairs Boogie* (4:31) 08. *We Three* (4:48) 09. *The Love Nest* (4:50) 10. *Tangerine* (4:22) 11. *Ramblin' Mind Blues* (3:53) 12. *Whispering* (4:33) 13. *Tell It To The Judge* (6:10) Carl Sonny Leyland - Piano, Vocals Kim Cusack - Clarinet Beau Sample - Bass Alex Hall – Drums

When it comes to food, we might not know how to create something authentic in the kitchen, but we certainly know what the real thing tastes like, whether it's a tomato from the garden, genuine ethnic cuisine, or good home cooking. It doesn't have to be fancy: a slice of good bread is true nourishment.

Deciding what's "authentic," "the real stuff," "the truth," in jazz or any other art form can be exhausting, sure to create debate among the faithful. But most of us would agree that we admire musicians who not only know their instruments superbly, but can make music that is both deep and intuitive — playing from the heart, evoking joy, sorrow, creating melodies while keeping the rhythm moving. We want to remember the music once the applause has died down, once the disc has faded into silence.

Pianist / singer / composer Carl Sonny Leyland and reed master Kim Cusack are authentic through and through. Their music comes from deep experience and deep feeling: it conveys the wonderful balance of exuberance or grief and the craft to express it fully and convey it whole to us. Thanks to Bryan Wright's Rivermont Records, we can experience their casual assurance first-hand in a new quartet recording, *STOMPIN' UPSTAIRS*, where they are given the best support from bassist Beau Sample and drummer Alex Hall — names familiar to anyone who's delighted in the Fat Babies. --- [jazzlives.wordpress.com](http://jazzlives.wordpress.com)

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