

Joe Pass, J.J. Johnson - We'll Be Together Again (1988)

Written by bluesever

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1 Wave 3:32 2 We'll Be Together Again 4:19 3 Naked As A Jaybird 4:56 4 Blue Bossa 4:05 5 Limehouse Blues 5:43 6 Long Has This Been Going On? 5:43 7 Bud's Blues 4:20 8 Nature Boy 2:30 9 Solar 4:17 10 When Lights Are Low 5:04 Joe Pass – guitar J.J. Johnson - trombone

Few would argue with the statement that there is not an excess of guitar-trombone duet albums. In fact, in terms of instrumentation, this date (which has been reissued on CD) may very well be somewhat unique in jazz history. Trombonist J.J. Johnson had already been the pacesetter on his instrument for nearly 40 years at the time, while guitarist Joe Pass proved in the 1970s that he could make his axe fulfill all the roles of an orchestra. Still, the strong success of this inspired outing is a bit of a surprise. While Pass often adds walking lines behind Johnson, the trombonist sometimes plays long tones behind the guitarist's solos. Most exciting are the spots where the two share the lead equally. Other than Bud Powell's "Bud's Blues" and Johnson's "Naked as a Jaybird," the duo sticks to standards. But obviously, these versions sound quite a bit different than usual. Highlights include "Wave," "Limehouse Blues," "Nature Boy," and "When Lights Are Low." Highly recommended. ---Scott Yanow, Rovi

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