

Created by: Debra C. Argen

## Dave Haskell Group - Pivot Point

[Dave Haskell Group - Pivot Point](#) is a stunningly rich 10-track *instrumental Jazz* release that soars, and features songwriter guitarist **Dave Haskell**, **Dan Zelman** on piano and keyboards, **Aaron Germain** on electric and acoustic bass, **Alan Hall** on drums, and guest musicians **Robben Ford**, **Russell Ferrante**, **Jimmy Haslip**, and **Toss Panos**. It is an album that takes you to the perfect "chill point," so sit back, make yourself comfortable, and get ready to enjoy **Dave Haskell Group - Pivot Point**.



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**Dave Haskell Group - Pivot Point:** *Agnes, For Barack, Mamba Samba, An Orchid For Emily (For Emily Remler), Second Look, Thirty West By Seventy ('o Something Hundred), 888 Watson, For The Moment, Monty, Eye Of The Hurricane*

**Personnel:** **Dave Haskell** - guitars, **Dan Zelman** - piano and keyboards, **Aaron Germain** - electric and acoustic bass, **Alan Hall** - drums

**Guest Musicians:** **Robben Ford** - guitar on *For The Moment* and *Monty*, **Russell Ferrante** - piano, rhodes and keyboards on *Second Look, Thirty West By Seventy ('o Something Hundred), For The Moment* and *Monty*, **Jimmy Haslip** - electric bass on *Second Look, Thirty West By Seventy ('o Something Hundred), For The Moment* and *Monty*, and percussion on *For The Moment*, **Toss Panos** - drums on *For The Moment* and *Monty*

**Jimmy Haslip** produced [Dave Haskell Group - Pivot Point](#), on which Dave Haskell shows his exceptional talent as both a songwriter as well as musician, writing 8 out of the 10 tracks on the release. The other two songs on the release are *For The Moment* written by Robben Ford on which Robben contributes his stellar guitar work; and *Eye Of The Hurricane*, written by the iconic Herbie Hancock.

In the album's liner notes, Dave Haskell writes, "I wanted to mention that this is my first official recording. It's been a long time coming and as they say, things happen when they are supposed to happen. As this project progressed, it was my fortune to have an incredible team with me, to help create something that I am immensely proud of."

With that said, make no mistake, Dave Haskell is not a newcomer to music, however he has had a rather interesting career to date. He grew up in California in a Jazz loving family where his interests lead him to playing music and to the Ford Brothers (Mark, Patrick, and Robben) who introduced him to the Chicago Blues; however, it was Jazz that found his heart.

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Growing up in the 1970s he had the opportunity to perform throughout the United States with many talented musicians and groups including Native American tenor saxophonist Jim Pepper, Mike Nock, Russell Ferrante, Jeff Lorber Fusion, Randy Crawford, Merl Saunders, Gregg Karukas, and Gary Willis, to mention but a few of notables where he honed his talents and established his credentials as a Blues and Jazz guitarist before doing an about face in the mid-1980s and heading to the skies, working as a commercial pilot for two decades before touching ground, but make no mistake, Dave Haskell is back on the music scene again and in full command.

For his first official recording, he enlists assistance from longtime friends Robben Ford (founding member of the YellowJackets (1977-1978), along with founding and current members of the YellowJackets, Russell Ferrante and Jimmy Haslip, who join forces with Dave Haskell and his talented band, drummer Alan Hall, bassist Aaron Germain, and pianist Dan Zelman, to create a most memorable album.

The release opens with the track, *Agnes*, and sings with promises delivered with Dave on guitar, Dan Zelman on piano and keyboards, Aaron Germain on electric and acoustic bass, and Alan Hall on drums, then slides effortlessly into the songs, *For Barack*, and *Mamba Samba*.

*An Orchid For Emily (For Emily Remler)* is Dave Haskell's soft and lovely tribute to the American Jazz guitarist Emily Remler (September 18, 1957 - May 4, 1990), who tragically died at the age of 32. The track opens with an excellent piano intro by Dan Zelman and then segues into Dave Haskell on guitar, Aaron Germain on bass, and Alan Hall on drums.

The songs *Second Look* and *Thirty West By Seventy ('o Something Hundred)*, feature the talents of the inimitable Jimmy Haslip on electric bass and Russell Ferrante on piano and synth, along with Dave and his band.

Blues, Jazz, Rock guitarist Robben Ford adds his impressive guitar work along with Dave Haskell's on the track *For The Moment*, written by Robben, with Jimmy Haslip doing double duty playing both electric bass and percussion, Russell Ferrante working his magic on the piano, and Toss Panos on drums.

Another great track is *888 Watson*, featuring Dave and his band. The second to last track on the release, *Monty*, has a Latin Jazz beat that cooks and features guest musicians Robben Ford, Russell Ferrante, Jimmy Haslip, and Toss Panos on drums. *Eye Of The Hurricane*, a Jazz standard written by Herbie Hancock and featured on Herbie's 1965 album, *Maiden Voyage*, closes out the release with great style.

On the album's liner notes, Dave Haskell included the following, which in its succinct style and grace eloquently defines the release, ***Dave Haskell - Pivot Point***.

#### PIVOT

A person on which something depends  
the center; the heart, a focal point  
the central or crucial factor  
the act of turning or rotating  
the rotation of the dancer  
the centre of which anything balances and turns

#### POINT

A place or locality  
an interval of time immediately before a given occurrence  
an objective or purpose  
Music: a phrase  
a position, a moment, a suggestion  
the intersection of two lines, of two lives

Dave, welcome back, you are clearly where you belong, playing guitar and writing music in the moment.

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For information on **Dave Haskell- Pivot Point** and on upcoming performances, please visit the website: [www.DaveHaskellJazz.com](http://www.DaveHaskellJazz.com).

Listen to samples of **Dave Haskell - Pivot Point**: [For Barack](#), [Mamba Samba](#), [An Orchid For Emily](#), [Second Look](#), and [Thirty West By Seventy](#).

Websites where you can procure **Dave Haskell Group - Pivot Point** are **AbstractLogix**, [CDBaby](#), and [iTunes](#).

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