



Music Notes by Roger Bull

New CD for Dennis Marks

Dennis Marks, University of North Florida professor of jazz bass, has a new album. Well, it's recorded, but it's not released. He and Doug Bickel, director of jazz piano at University of Miami's Frost School of Music, recorded the CD as the Bickel/Marks Group. Also playing are drummer Marco Marcinko and David Liebman, a saxophonist who's played with everyone from Miles Davis to John McLaughlin.

Marks and Bickel wrote seven of the eight songs on the CD, which also includes the standard "Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful."

"Liebman plays very harmonically advanced stuff," Mark said, "so we wrote stuff to match."

Now that the album's finished, Marks and Bickel are sending it out hoping to find a label. If they don't, they may market it themselves, but they're hoping someone picks it up.

Some of you may know Marks as the regular bassist during the Jacksonville Jazz Festival's piano competition each year. The new work is his first CD since 1996's "Images," but he's been busy as a sideman with plenty of other jazz players, including Arturo Sandoval's last six albums.

He, Bickel and the others actually recorded the new CD, called "Finding Your Way," in one day that started at 10 a.m. By 4 p.m., they were done.

