1. My Ship (excerpt)  
   (Kurt Weill, Ira Gershwin)  
   1:06

2. Coral Keys  
   Walter Bishop Jr.)  
   4:24

3. Reflections  
   (Thelonious Monk)  
   1:59

4. Naima's Love Song  
   (John Hicks)  
   7:19

5. Ligia  
   (Antonio Carlos Jobim)  
   5:10

6. Lucas’s Waltz  
   (Lucas Mason)  
   4:14

7. The Poignancy of Life  
   (Michael Cooke)  
   3:01

8. Shoot The Piano Player  
   (Georges Delerue)  
   3:14

9. “Elna”  
   (Michael Cooke)  
   4:06

10. Sittin' On A Rooftop  
    (Hamid Hamilton Camp)  
    3:52

11. ‘Three Flowers’ medley - 3 tunes –  
    1. It’s Only A Flower  
       (Ahmad Jamal)  
       9:15
    2. A Rose Without A Thorn –  
       (Abdul Salim)  
    3. Lotus Blossom  
       (Billy Strayhorn)

12. ‘Monk’ – faux outtake  
    0:11

Produced by Michael Cooke and Alex Niella  
cd cover photo and jacket design by Alex Niella
(recorded April 11th, 2015. CD completed May 18th, 2015)

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David, Michal and Adam – April 11, 2015
Michael Cohen, piano
Adam Cohen, double bass


-out of nowhere – HAS to be “William Red” Garland, for all his sweetness, rhythm, pulse, heart-wrenching – in particular, his gorgeous rendition of “Never Let Me Go”. (And into the mix he so loved and honored Ahmad Jamal).

- Adam Cohen (bassist): Adam Cohen’s versatility lends solid, creative musical support to an array of artists covering a broad range of styles. A leader in his own right, Adam’s bass accompaniment has included working with the likes of Ernie Watts, Eri


- As they say in horseracing upon the siring of a foal (in this case the occasion of my birth) “by Bob (“Father”), out of Helen (“Mother”): “The Poignancy of Life” is my dedicate to my father, mother, Buffy, Nicole, Arthur (my brother St)

Acknowledgements:

- My dear friend, former teacher and major inspiration, fellow sojourner in life and helper to me in my pursuit of jazz piano, who introduced me to the likes of Pannonica aka, Nica de Koenigswarter, Charlie Rouse, Hilton Ruiz, Walter Davis Jr., Wallace Roney, Joe Albany, Art Taylor, and more the late Walter Bishop Jr., one of Charlie Parker’s last performing pianists and straight ahead bop, post-be-bop player – incredible.

Walter and me (Circa 1980’s)
The shimmering genius, living legend of “American Classical Music”, pianist, composer, the incomparable Ahmad Jamal: It was Ahmad who influenced Miles Davis NOT the other way around. Ahmad became a dear friend. And as inconsistent as it has been due to his heavy performing schedule, he remains forever loyal, supportive, considerate. A man who has championed my worth, a remarkable individual, a wonder of a man, indescribably keen, sensitive, broad, wise, authentic, an ongoing forever influence upon the music world and upon me harmonically, compositionally, and beyond.

- Ahmed and me November 24, 2012.

- My mother and father, Elna, Stuart, Matthew, Marcella – clearly and without any question! They are in the fabric, the weave, the design – the influence, detours and the envelopment! - The tune “Shoot the Piano Player” is dedicated in specific to my daughter Nicole, my son Arthur, and to my brother Stuart.

The line that just may say it all in re artistic endeavor, hope, quest of the ineffable: “December 4, 1946. Sam and I agree, the outlook is emphatically DARK, so why not put our heads together and try this gimmick: the lighted cellar, the white noise, the blazing sound stage, the glaring exit, the beige dawn, the bright future, the illuminating truss… David.”

“Shoot The Piano Player”, novelist David Goodis inscription to director, and fellow writer/screenwriter, Sam Fuller. These words are from Sam’s first edition copy of Dark Passage which Sam cherished (and which later became the source material for the produced film of the same name with Bogart and Bacall in 1947). Inside the jacket cover, there are some little drawings David doodled for Sam, along with those extraordinary words written above.

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