



**MIKE  
PORCARO**

Brotherly  
Love

Mike Porcaro's first album came out finally.  
We had been hearing a rumor that he release his own album since last year,  
so lots of fans were eargerly waiting for this album,  
Main disc contains 10 songs, plus there's a bonus disc (5 songs, over 36 minutes),  
It's worth to waiting for for sure.  
I know David Garfield; co-producer of this album nearly 20 years,  
I assert that this album is one of the finest production of his so many great works.  
I have no words to explain how much he put his heart on this project seriously.

I'll let you know details later,  
The base of this album is recorded live at "Tribute To Jeff" concert  
in Koblenz, Germany March 2002.  
But this is NOT simple live album.  
They did great post-production carefully at every single track,  
and they made up such a wonderful album carry the title of "Mike Porcaro's 1st album".  
I want you guys to know it first.  
and I'm sure you guys know "post-production" on this album doesn't mean the same  
on other ordinary album (like replace low-quality performance to another),  
This word means more upper level production on this album.  
'cause, all the musicians on the album are world-class top players from L.A.&N.Y..  
The reason why Mike&David has done post-production on their super performance,  
It's very simple&clearly -- They strongly want to make us to be moved & happy.

David Garfield told me episodes about this album for the liner note,  
so Here I write those episodes as much as I can.  
I hope it express the reason why Mike Porcaro's 1st album came out NOW,  
and this is NOT simply called "Tribute To Jeff Concert"  
----- like I understood it on conversation w/ David Garfield.

Mike Porcaro was born May 29 1955, South Windsor, Connecticut.  
His father Joe is also a famous drummer/percussionist who played  
on Frank Sinatra, Mel Torme to Monkees, Queen Latifah.  
Needless to say, his elder brother is a great drummer Jeff Porcaro (Apr.1 1954 - Aug.5 1992),  
and younger brother is keyboardist/composer Steve Porcaro(born Sep.2 1957).  
Jeff&Steve were original member of TOTO's and made many big hits,  
Mike himself has joined to TOTO since the tour right after the group released "TOTO IV".  
Former bassist David Hungate didn't want to go out to tour  
and He had chosen his family and leave the band.  
Then Mike replaced David's position, anyway Mike has been known as  
one of big name bass players already,  
It was very natural thing that he joined to TOTO.  
I've never talked with Mike personally,  
He always being really gentle and warm --  
Sometimes I wonder "Has Mike never been upset?".  
Of course he's not just a nice guy, he also has serious side  
especially on his own performance.  
--- He gives me such impression.

He gave us comment (shown at page 2) via David Garfield this time,  
We are very happy to read it and we can feel his special thoughts on this album.  
When musicians release his/her own album,  
they put their hearts to it and help promotions as well, it seems natural thing.  
but Look, this is 1st album from Mike's long&great career

and the title is "Brotherly Love" --- it's an astonishing fact,  
his album is the FIRST album to be released from the Porcaro Brothers!  
yes, Mike might put everything he had into this album -- we can see it clearly.

The story behind the album has began at "Tribute To Jeff" concert.  
in 1997, keyboardist David Garfield (He&Jeff has played as a group called "Los Lobotomys")  
cleared massive productions

and made up the tribute album for Jeff.

Probably He spent over 2-3 years or more for this record.

The guests on the tribute album are super GORGEOUS.

from Boz Scaggs, Michael McDonald, Don Henley, Richard Marx and Jay Graydon,

Larry Carlton, Steve Gadd, Vinnie Colaiuta to Eddie Van Halen,

That's exactly "ALL STAR" members and project.

Of course it tooks long time for not only recording but also clear contracts ---

When all the things are done, 5 years had passed since great Jeff Porcaro has passed away.

Then album "Tribute To Jeff Revisited" has released in 2005,

David Garfield had done many concerts to pay tribute to Jeff in between 8 years 1997-2005.

The base sounds of "Brotherly Love" is recorded one of those concerts

in Koblenz, Germany (March 30&31 2002).

All the members on this albums are big names,

but you can see the drummers are especially gorgeous.

Steve Gadd, Gregg Bissonette, John JR Robingson, Bernard Purdie and Joe Porcaro  
and others.

Normally those big names get together one place for only 2 days performance,

Actually these guys visited to Germany for world-class drum festival at that time.

(Famous musicians get together to do special sessions or clinic

-- this kind of festival takes place often in Europe.)

This project had started to offer those guest musicians to join the recording.

The theme of the recording is "Tribute To Jeff", then the leader is Mike Porcaro ---

Steve Gadd approved of the project first.

Steve Gadd was not only the drummer of Stuff's, but also top session player in N.Y..

Many drummers admire his solo on "Aja" of Steely Dan's,

His performance on hit albums like Al Jarreau's "Breakin' Away",

Manhattan Transfer "Mecca for Moderns"

(Both albums are produced by Jay Graydon in early 80's) are long time favorite  
of Adult Contemporary Music fans.

in recent years, Steve plays as a member of Eric Clapton Band.

It was wonderful start for the project to get approval from such a super drummer.

I've heard that Jeff Porcaro paid respect to Steve Gadd,

and accordings to David Garfield,

This project is the first time for Mike to play with Steve Gadd,

So Mike was excited about it very much.

Gregg Bissonette played together Steve Gadd on many songs of this album.

He's a great drummer too who is activity various kinds of music

from Jazz/Fusion to Hard Rock.

One of the famous works of his career is Dave Lee Roth Band in '80s.

He played w/ Steve Vai(g), Billy Sheehan(b) in the band and let us listen to

super technical performance.

On the tunes Steve&Gregg played together, You can listen to Steve's drum on right channel,  
Gregg's drum on left channel.

I keep introducing super drummers... next is John Robinson.  
He's called by his nick name "JR", He played for David Foster&Friends Japan Tour,  
One of the busiest drummers in the studio and tour.  
We can listen to his famous work for Quincy Jones,  
Oneday (Rufus age), Quincy advised John "You play too many beats. Play simply!",  
then John had changed not only style of performance but also his own drum set.  
He's keeping the advice still now and he's been a top drummer.  
This episode let us know John is very faithful person.  
He came to Japan w/ David Garfield for Mt.Fuji Jazz Festival 2002 (at Fuji Speedway),  
That show's theme was "Tribute To Jeff".

Then Bernard Purdie is one of the most favorite drummers of Jeff Porcaro's.  
Jeff admires and studied Bernard's signature shuffle groove,  
then He's built up his own groove.  
Bernard played tons of records since middle of '60s (mostly Jazz, R&b records),  
Steely Dan's "Home at last" from "Aja"&"Babylon Sister" from "Gaucho"  
might be familiar for listeners of this album.

Chase Duddy is a nephew of Jeff&Mike's.  
the Porcaro Brothers has a sister named Joleen,  
Her son is Chase, he was born Oct.1 1984.  
He carried out important part of the show though he was only 17 years old,  
His groove is simply amazing!  
I've heard that David Paich was surprised so much to listen to Chase's drum.  
Chase has been activity as a drummer in L.A., plays Rock album/tour mainly.

See, those great drummers played together or one after another in one concert,  
It's a special pleasure at drum festival.  
I hope this kind of festival to be popular here in Japan...

Next, I'd like to write about episodes from festival to release of the CD.  
Accorings to David Garfield, the leader is Mike Porcaro since the project had started,  
Mike was the first to give opinions about song list to musicians on each song.  
There's only David's name on producer credit of this album,  
David told me Mike's position is the leader and co-producer.  
Then this album is full of "brotherly love" for Jeff&Steve Porcaro,  
the title is named after that.

Probably you guys are wondering "Why does it take such a long time to release this album?",  
and "Is this album a benefit album for Mike?".  
At first, I asked David Garfield a question about benefit album,  
David said "No." clearly.  
He said it's different situation with benefit tour of TOTO's in 2010.  
It's just the timing of release is the same time of TOTO's benefit tour.  
But, this album to be sold well, and many people support Mike,  
it would be the same as benefit for Mike, David said.  
Then another question -- the reason why the release took a long time,  
David said there were so many troubles on the project.  
They started to studio recording of vocal tracks in 2004,  
but it took LONG time to convert audio file which recorded in Germany,  
also it took LONG time to mix down (there's a song features 3 drummers!).  
They used 2 24-ch recording equipments at concerts in Germany,  
Troubles happened on those equipments too.

Final stage of the production, David brought every single track to Mike's home, and He asked Mike's opinion, then went back to the studio.

Then all the songs were finished, David went to Mike's home again and made arrangement the order of the songs.

David has done those things in between busy schedule like tour w/ George Benson's World Tour,

So no wonder progress was slowly.

Finally the album is finished in the fall 2010, then release (in Japan) in Jan.2011.

O.K., Here I started to writing about songs w/ featured musicians.

The core band is Mike on bass, Steve Porcaro&David Garfield on keyboards, Mike O'Neill on guitar, Lenny Castro on percussions, Larry Klimas on saxophone&flute, Ralph"Mosch"Himmler on trumpet.

Mike O'Neill is known as a guitarist of George Benson Band.

Larry Klimas is a member of David Garfield's band "Karizma",

He's been playing for famous artists like Manhattan Transfer.

Mosch is German artist.

## **1.Rosanna**

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the opening of the album is "Rosanna", one of the biggest hits of TOTO's.

1st single from Grammy winning album "TOTO IV" (1982),

it was Billboard Single Chart #2 hit,

also it won "the Record of the Year" at Grammy Awards.

This song is composed by David Paich; a key-man of compose/arrangement of TOTO sounds,

They say this song is named after Steve Porcaro's ex-girlfriend Rosanna Arquette.

Bobby Kimball and Glen Hughes (ex-vocalist of Deep Purple) shares lead vocal on this songs,

First half sang by Glen, last half sang by Bobby.

Back vocal by Scottish vocalist Alex Ligertwood who had been sang for famous group like Brian Auger's Oblivion Express, Santana, Average White Band.

Another backvocalist Phil Perry is credited and he sang Studio Recording part in L.A..

Also guitarist Doug Bossi plays over dub part -- he's a L.A. base guitarist and his style is similar to Steve Lukather's.

He played Steve Lukather's solo on the record perfectly,

plus harmonized on it by over dubbing.

Doug has got to know David Garfield when he played as

a member of Gregg Bissonette's band,

now he plays as a member of David's group "Los Lobotomys".

Drums:Steve Gadd&Gregg Bissonette.

## **2.Manic Depression**

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You can enjoy Glen Hughes' Hard Rock style screaming on this track.

This one is Jimi Hendrix's tune -- Jeff Porcaro respected Jimi Hendrix a lot -- from legendary album "Are You Experienced" (1967).

(This song is track 2 of "Are You Experienced", and track 1 is famous "Purple Haze".)

It seems no contact point between Mike Porcaro&David Garfield and Gren Hughes,

Gren is a friend of David's favorite singer Alex Ligertwood,

and Alex recommended him to Mike&David.

Drums:Steve Gadd&Gregg Bissonette

### **3.Georgy Porgy**

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Later years, TOTO shifted to Steve Lukather's band,  
and there're many hard-edge songs,  
but in Early years, there're soft&soulful songs in their records.  
There're many fans who loves "soulful side" of TOTO's as well.  
Those fans' favorites are "99" from album "Hydra" (1979) and this "Georgy Porgy".  
This song is track 3 of their debut album "TOTO" (1978),  
and the 3rd single from the album.  
It's Billboard Top50 hit, also it reached No.18 on R&B chart.  
Today, this song became "R&B standard" and many artists cover it.  
Lead vocal by Alex Lighertwood on this recording.

Drums:Steve Gadd

### **4.Lowdown**

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It's a famous story that the base of TOTO was Boz Scaggs' band,  
and Jeff Porcaro&David Paich, those 2 guys were BIG factor of great success  
of Boz's "Silk Degrees" (1976).  
David Paich co-wrote several tracks w/ Boz and he had done arrangement as well,  
and Jeff Porcaro developed Paich's idea to as much as possible.  
The most brilliant tune from their team work is --- "Lowdown".  
Perfect fill in of Jeff's at intro part would be covered and sampled so many times.  
yes, we're curious "Who" and "How" to play Jeff's signature groove on this track.  
Drums are played by Steve Gadd & Robin DiMaggio.  
Robin attracted music fans attention by his drumming for Steve Vai's album in '90s,  
after that, He played for top artist like Diana Ross, Paul Simon,  
He's one of the remarkable guy in L.A. studio scene.  
He released solo album in 2002, He show us his various talents on the album.  
Lead vocal by Alex Ligertwood

Drums:Steve Gadd&Robin DiMaggio

### **5.E Minor Shuffle**

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This song came from "James Newton Howard&Friends".  
Recording members were James, David Paich, Steve Porcaro --  
those 3 guys were playing synthesizer,  
Jeff Porcaro on drums, Joe Porcaro on percussions.  
This album came out from SheffieldLab 1994,  
Originally the songs of the album were composed for demonstration of YAMAHA synthesizer  
DX-7 &GS-1 at NAMM show.  
The interesting point is, when David Garfield&Friends covered this song,  
They put a riff of Steely Dan's "Black Friday" to this song.  
(Jeff Porcaro played drums of original "Black Friday".)  
David always plays the song w/ this arrangement,  
Here we can listen to it on this record as well.

Drums:Steve Gadd&Gregg Bissonette

## 6.English Eyes

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This song came from TOTO's 3rd album "Turn Back".

Edgy&Catchy sound of this song fits to the concert very much,  
They features Bobby Kimball (who sang this song on the record) on lead vocal,  
Glen Hughes and Alex Ligertwood on back vocals.

Plus, Joseph Williams (ex-vocalist of TOTO)'s vocal & Doug Bossi's guitar part  
were overdubbed.

Jeff&Mike's nephew Chase Duddy played drums on this track,

We can listen to his performance when he was 17 years old.

Drums:Chase Duddy

## 7.Human Nature

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I'm writing about Jeff Porcaro many on this liner note,

Here I spotlight Steve Porcaro.

Everyone know this song for sure, This big hit song came from

Michael Jackson's legendary album "Thriller"(1982).

The music is written by Steve Porcaro, The lyrics is written by John Betis  
who is known by works w/ Carpenters.

Only Steve can write such a beautiful&graceful song.

I'm intersted in they played this song without vocal.

Probably there's Miles Davis version on their mind

-- muted trumpet, flugelhorn on the melody is simply wonderful.

We can feel Jazzy atmosphere after this song was over,

Also this song shift the concert sound from Rock to Jazz naturally,

I'd say it's good choice from the overview of a whole album.

Drums:Steve Gadd

## 8.Straight No Chaser

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Here comes Jazz standard song of Thelonious Monk's.

Thelonious is one of the legendary Jazz Pianists who had very unique style.

This song came from his album "Thelonious Monk Quintet" (1951),

Actor Clint Eastwood filmed the documentary which has the same title as this song in 1988.

Of course, this song features Joe Porcaro on drums.

I'm wondering Joe might play the record of this song at home

when the Porcaro Brothers were young kids.

Drums:Joe Porcaro

## 9.Africa

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This song is very special in Jeff's career.

Everyone knows this song, also Jeff shows his ability to full on both sides of  
performer and composer.

"Africa" is the 3rd single from "TOTO IV" and their 1st no.1 hit song.

Jeff contributed to composing a lot with David Paich,

and they made up this "ever-green" song.

Highlight of the song is super groove by 3 drummers;Steve Gadd+Gregg Bissonette  
+Robin DiMaggio and Joe Porcaro's percussions.

And We can enjoy steady notes played by Mike Porcaro  
-- We feel as if we could see he's playing on the stage.  
Alex Ligertwood & Bobby Kimball shares lead vocal on this song,  
Alex sang first half, then Original vocalist Bobby sang the bridge.  
Joseph Williams' chorus part is over dubbed, his voice let the taste of this song change  
to Adult Contemporary Sound. It's very interesting.  
And David Paich's keyboards+vocal(over dubbed) has done much contribute  
to this song as well.

Drums: Steve Gadd, Gregg Bissonette, Robin MiMaggio

## **10. Let's Stay Together**

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This song is credit as "a bonus track" on this disc.  
It's a very famous Soul/R&B tune from Al Green's same title album(1972),  
Al get no.1 on both of National chart and R&B chart with this song.  
"Tribute To Jeff" album features gorgeous vocalists -- Michael McDonald,  
David Pack, Richard Marx, Don Henley, Bill Champlin and others on Lead/Back vocals,  
On this concert, 3 singers -- Bobby, Glen, and Alex sang powerfully as well.

Drums: Steve Gadd, John "JR" Robinson

---< **Bonus Disc** >-----

## **1. Stuffy- 2. Jeff's Strut**

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These 2 songs were played like a medley.  
Both songs are original song on "Tribute To Jeff" album.  
Joe Porcaro composed "Jeff's Strut" and it inspired David Garfield  
and let him write "Stuffy".  
and "Stuffy" is dedicated to legendary group "Stuff".  
(the group featured Steve Gadd, Richard Tee and other top N.Y. players.)  
David Garfield told me, "Jeff's Strut" was in much more be-bop style at first,  
but David arranged it to R&B/Blues style like Stuff or Crusaders.  
Of course, the drummer on these 2 tracks was Steve Gadd.  
We can listen to his signature phrase everywhere.

Drums: Steve Gadd

## **3. Babylon Sisters**

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Jeff Porcaro has joined to Steely Dan in the middle of '70s,  
then He played the title track of album "Gaucho"(1980).  
Jeff's hero Bernard Purdie played "Babylon Sisters" in the same album,  
Later Jeff said he made up "Rosanna"'s groove from Bernard Purdie's groove on this song.  
Bernard himself played together with Gregg Bissonette --  
Bernard & Gregg -- they're very different type drummers,  
so it's very interesting that they are featured on the same track.  
Lead vocal by Alex Ligertwood, and Bobby Kimball & Glen Hughes joined to the last part.

Drums: Bernard Purdie, Gregg Bissonette

#### 4. Big Bone

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This song is written by Jeff Porcaro & David Garfield.  
This song's originally recorded on their band Los Lobotomys'  
1st album "Los Lobotomys"(1989),  
Then this song was featured on "Tribute To Jeff" album too,  
so this time is 3rd recording for this song.  
When they wrote this song, Jeff made up the groove+bass line,  
then David composed main melody, then Jeff added trumpet melody part.  
Mike's performance is brilliant & burnin' especially at the last part  
-- his groove developed this song very very hot tune.

Drums: Gregg Bissonette

#### 5. Corbitt Van Brauer

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This disc is end up with this latin-fusion tune.  
David Garfield composed this song,  
and his group "Karizma" used to play this song live.

Drums: Steve Gadd, Gregg Bissonette

...these 15 songs full of best performances,  
Do you receive the message from Mike Porcaro through the sound?  
I asked Mike where the highlight of this album is,  
He answered "Wonderful vocal performances and every musicians' solo,  
and it's a special memory to played together with my father Joe Porcaro."

Mike Porcaro has got disease called ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis)  
and he has to staying at home for cure.  
but He's fighting against the disease,  
and He has started career as a solo artist.  
His brother Jeff & Steve support him on both side of heart & music,  
I asked Mike what he think of Jeff & Steve

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*I consider my brothers Jeff and Steve, to be among the finest of men.  
It has been a blessing to have shared my life with them.  
As artists their contributions are famous and appreciated the world over.*

(Japanese translation)

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Thank you so much for such a wonderful album!  
I want to encourage and support Mr. Mike Porcaro from now on too.  
Hang in there, Mr. Mike!

TOSHIKI NAKADA (COOL SOUND Inc.)