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**USA Release Date:** March 29, 2019

**Europe Release Date:** May 31, 2019

**PAUL JOST’S “SIMPLE LIFE”**

**U.S. RELEASE DATE – MARCH 29, 2019**



*“Jost's quick rise as a singer over the last six years …. is a testament to his innate talent, his precision as a musician, and his distinctive vocal sound.”* **Suzanne Lorge, All About Jazz.**

*“A creative force that deserves to be added to the list of great male jazz vocalists of all time.”*  **Peter McLaren, Jazz in Europe.**

*“Paul Jost brings lustrous vocal tone, with hip interpretive phrasing”* J**onathan Takiff, Philadelphia Daily News.**

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Paul Jost is pleased to release his next album “Simple Life” being released in the U.S. on March 29, 2019. He performs with his quartet including Jim Ridl-piano; Dean Johnson-bass; and Tim Horner-drums. Special guest on the album is vibraphonist Joe Locke on four songs.

When describing vocalist and arranger Paul Jost, two words come to mind … “passionate” and “storyteller”. To Paul, each lyric offers a story, a message, and a vehicle to convey his own interpretation and message. While Paul is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and arranger, it’s his vocal style that makes him standout. With his reputation as a vocalist growing, Paul has been filling rooms on the New York club scene as well as captivating audiences on festival stages both in the US and Europe.

Jost was thrilled with the experience of recording this album with such gifted musicians. He said, *“I was blessed to experience the joy of having these extraordinary musicians and dear friends share both their boundless talent and love in realizing this album"*. He went on to say that the album title, “Simple life”, is not just a tune on the album but a thread that is woven throughout. He recalls his father saying, “This whole thing (life) is about common sense. Sometimes the hardest thing about living is just to live – don’t always complicate things. Sometimes you just have to let life come to you”.

The songs included on “Simple Life” not only look back, paying tribute to the tradition, they also look forward reaching outside the traditional boundaries of the genre. However, this album is even more as it documents a part of Jost's philosophy and vision. On the album, he takes his hand to a number of standards from the jazz repertoire bringing a fresh approach while at the same time respecting their history and place in the American Songbook. He weaves his way artfully through the verse of **“Give Me the Simple Life”,** brings his rhythmic skills to Ellington's **“Caravan”** and provides us with a heartfelt rendition of **“Folks Who Live on the Hill”**.

Not one to be limited by genre, Jost also takes two Lennon and McCartney classics **"Blackbird"** and **"With a Little Help from My Friends"** to task. “Blackbird” is given an up-tempo swing treatment and forms a perfect opener for the album while "With a Little Help from My Friends" is given a soulful twist with some vocal help from his friends. His instrumental approach is shown on Sonny Rollins **"No Moe"** as he scats his way through this bop tune based on rhythm changes. Contrasting this is his rendition of the traditional folk song **"Shenandoah"** that shows him doing what he does best, telling a story.

One of Jost's signature songs at his live gigs is the Harold Arlen and Yip Harburg song **"If I Only Had A Brain"** from the film "The Wizard of Oz". This lilting ballad showcases his lyrical sensibilities and, once again, his art of storytelling.

One track that truly grabs attention is **"Everybody's Talkin'"** by Fred Neil. The song, best known from the classic film "Midnight Cowboy", becomes a canvas for Jost to paint a picture of a subject close to his heart. His inspiration came from the news a number of years back of Mark Murphy's misdiagnosis with Alzheimer’s Disease and the lasting impact this had on him. His rendition takes a look at the anguish one can only imagine when first realizing they’re losing themselves to this terrible disease.

Bob Dylan fans will enjoy his version of **“Girl from the North Country”**. With every listening the layers of the onion are pealed back each time displaying a deeper level of understanding of the pathos contained in Dylan's lyrics.

Jost adds two original compositions to the mix with the waltz **"Bela Tristeza"** and rounding out the album the poignant commentary on the current state of the world **"Livin' in the Wrong Time"**. A perfect track to close on, leaving the listener with food for thought.

With “Simple Life”, Jost has created an album that not only documents this current period in his career but also sets the tone for all that will come. It's clear when listening to this album that Paul Jost has staked his claim as one of the most innovative vocalists on the scene today.

**For press materials on Paul Jost**

**(including album covers, promotional photos and logos), please visit** [**www.pauljostmusic.com**](http://www.pauljostmusic.com/)**)**