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RIDING ON A BLUE NOTE



Winnipeg Free Press - ONLINE EDITION

Wired for sound

By: [Chris Smith](#)

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Tara Davidson

Toronto alto saxophonist Tara Davidson, like many other musicians, finds inspiration (or at least song titles) in the broader culture around her.

She opened her March 8 Mardi Jazz gig with a new tune from her new CD, *View*. The composition -- *Bunny, Bubs and Bodie* -- will ring a bell with fans of the HBO TV show *The Wire*, which features three characters by those names.

For those of us more inclined to stereos than flat-screen TV sets, the tune is an interesting jazz piece and one of the best on *View*, her third CD as a leader.

Davidson is a very good player and has a busy career as a leader and playing in bands with the likes of saxophonist Mike Murley and pianist David Braid.

She had pianist Jamie Reynolds and drummer Fabio Ragnelli, who both play on the CD, and bassist Dan Fortin with her on her tour promoting the new disc. It's a good, young band that bodes well for Canadian jazz and Davidson gives her band mates lots of room to play, especially Reynolds, who is a fine accompanist and soloist.

Davidson is an excellent player and composer, with a beautiful warm tone, who won some new friends at Centre culturel franco-manitobain Tuesday night.

[Chris Smith](#), Winnipeg Free Press

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About Chris Smith

Chris Smith has been a jazz fan since, as a teen, he discovered Miles Davis on a mono LP version of the classic Kind of Blue album among his brother's collection.

He turned that love of jazz into a Free Press column in 1994 where he covers local, national and international jazz in his column, concert reviews and CD reviews as well as working as a copy editor. (He also provides work for CD shelf manufacturers).

He has worked for newspapers since 1975, first for the Winnipeg Tribune until its demise in 1980 and since then for the Winnipeg Free Press as a reporter, copy editor and columnist.

Blogs that Chris Smith follows:

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