What do you get when you put together a couple of kids fascinated by Downbeat Magazine, while their contemporaries are reading Archie Comics, who speak of their Jazz musician heroes with great authority while their buddies are trading baseball cards? They were different. They were cool. They wanted to play music -"Jazz" music. They were "works-in-progress", devoid of the musical knowledge necessary to the object of their desire.... and it never stopped them - but they were "Cool". That knowledge and skill would manifest along the way and culminate fifty years down the road. The VGC was born of aspiration. At the very least, they got to know what they didn't know. Time passes. Inevitably, somebody says, "Hey, Let's get the Band back together". And it is done - *VGC 2.0* . *Se Habla, Jazz.* Then, somebody says, "Wouldn't it be nice if we recorded these sessions?" Done. And this begins still another adventure in a new concept, Production Standards and a progression of six albums chronicling the progress of these endeavors. Then somebody says, "Can't we try something a little more modern?" For us, this means a run at tunes popular in the 70's and 80's (modern by our standards). Taking chances became the name of the game. The floating crap game that was the VGC didn't hesitate to the next plateau. **Double Down** says it all about the eclectic direction taken by the VGC and the free-wheeling , passionate and, often, chaotic production process. Honorable mention is given to Art for rocking out the beats to the more modern tunes. Special thanks to Bob DeGennaro for his supplemental percussion work.

A.V.N.