



Gwen Hughes Statement:

ARTISTIC FOCUS

AMERICAN GOLD grows out of my continuous effort to bring jazz to audiences that might normally avoid it. My band & I delight in taking songs everyone already knows and putting them in fresh musical settings, where the audience hears new things in the melodies and the lyrics...plus they get to experience the freewheeling invention and chops of the musicians. In this way, we give them a great jazz concert and a fun, energetic concert experience, too. I have a big heart for music education, so all my shows will invite participation by students & music teachers. Our goal with **AMERICAN GOLD** is to show is how American music has a unique sound all its own, very distinct from other world cultures. This sound originated in the South, but its "American-ness" is a product of influences from all over the United States.