

PAUL ASBELL - GUITAR

From his early years, playing blues on Chicago's South Side, to his present multi-faceted career based out of northern Vermont, Paul has played and recorded with Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker, Howlin' Wolf, Lightnin' Hopkins, Otis Rush, Paul Butterfield, Pops Staples, Donny Hathaway, and numerous others while in his hometown of Chicago.

In 1978, Paul moved to Vermont seeking an outlet for more personal musical visions. He formed Kilimanjaro which led to several appearances at the Kool Jazz Festival, the Atlanta Jazz Festival, the Montreal Jazz Festival, the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland. In 1981, he and other members of Kilimajaro joined forces with a legendary saxophonist/blues singer to form Big Joe Burrell and the Unknown Blues Band.

Since 1994, Paul has been reconnecting with his original folk-based roots in enthusiastically received festival shows and solo concerts. His three solo acoustic CD's, *From Adamant To Atchafalaya*, *Steel-String Americana* and *Roots and Branches* have all received numerous rave reviews for Paul's highly individualized twists on blues and jazz standards and original pieces from the "american roots" tradition.

Paul Asbell's most recent release, *Burmese Panther* is the culmination of several years of composing, arranging, and fine-tuning his original compositions with a regular group of world-class players. The summer-long recording process allowed each of the pieces to achieve their own distinct personalities, equally reflective of the collective skills of the musicians, and the vision of the composer. Timbres, grooves, and moods range from the elegant mainstream jazz sound of Wes Montgomery and Joe Pass, to New Orleans street-feels, to latin and Brazilian grooves, with more than a hint of Blue Note-era angularity tossed in.

Paul's guitar can be heard on all of Elisabeth's CDs including her most recent; *Something Good - Songs Of Rodgers & Hammerstein*.