The Jazz Passengers evolved out of the saxophone-trombone duo of Roy Nathanson and Curtis Fowlkes. In 1987, Nathanson and Fowlkes began work on the album Broken Night/Red Light for the Belgian label Crepuscule Records. Although originally envisioned as a duo recording, the instrumentation expanded piece by piece to the present configuration, a septet. Still, the compositional approach of the Jazz Passengers continues to emanate from the earlier duo conception, with the additional intent of presenting the music in a humorous style reminiscent of Louis Armstrong's bands of the 1930s.

The Jazz Passengers have given frequent performances at the Knitting Factory and other New York clubs and have appeared at the Vancouver and JVC Jazz Festivals. In addition to Broken Night/Red Light, they recorded Deranged & Decomposed in 1988 (also for Crepuscule) and were featured on the Live at the Knitting Factory, Volume 1 sampler on A&M. The Jazz Passengers are currently preparing a workshop production of their comic musical theater piece, The Jazz Passengers in Egypt, with texts by Ray Dobbins.


1- You're the Fool (6:05)  
   Nathanson/Ware/Jazz Passengers, lyrics by David Cale
2- Cha-Ha (6:15)  
   Jones/Jazz Passengers
3- Little Italy (La Passione) (4:37)  
   Jones/Jazz Passengers
4- The Faker (4:29)  
   Nathanson/Jazz Passengers
5- Seven Guys With a Reason (5:26)  
   Ware/Jazz Passengers
6- Augie the Rat (4:50)  
   Nathanson/Jazz Passengers
7- Peace in the Valley (5:09)  
   Nolet/Jazz Passengers
8- March 19th (2:54)  
   Fowlkes/Jazz Passengers
9- Indian Club Bombardment (7:02)  
   Nathanson/Jazz Passengers
10- Easy to Love (4:45)  
    Porter/arranged by Roy Nathanson

The Jazz Passengers  
Curtis Fowlkes—trombone, vocals
Roy Nathanson-tenor, alto saxophone, clarinet
Brad Jones-bass
Marc Ribot-guitar, e-flat horn
Bill Ware-vibes
E.J. Rodriguez-drums, percussion
Jim Nolet-violin

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Produced by Arthur Moorhead, Hugo Dwyer and Roy Nathanson
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Assistant engineer: Peter Beckerman
Recorded and mixed at Sound On Sound, New York City
Special thanks to Right Track Studios
March 19th recorded at Splash Studios and features the Waldwick High School Marching Band under the direction of Laurent Gareau
Cover art: Jill Nathanson
Cover design: Steve Byram

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