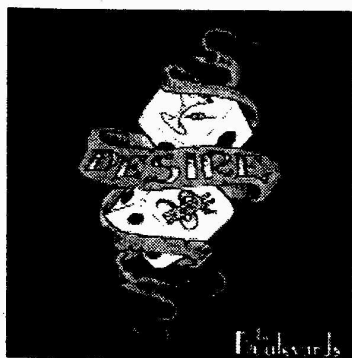


HOLLER

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The Boulevards, *Desire*, 1999,
Cage Free Records

Once again we get the opportunity to check out some great local Blues talent with the release of the Boulevards' second disc, titled *Desire*. Chris Klein, George deCaro and company return with new tunes and their trademark jazz-flavored,

swing-influenced sound.

The disc starts out with a tune written by guitarist Dan Freedman and vocalist Chris Klein, titled "Swinging's Only Done When the Time Is Right." From this uptempo number, the band moves into a haunting, slow number titled "The Close of Night"; here the band really shows it's talent when letting a song tell a story. Two instrumentals on the disc, "Clean Your Plate" and "Denver City Swing," let the band members stretch as individual musicians. Some other highlights on this recording include two songs, "Living Dangerously" and "Gonna Get High." The poignant lyrics of these two numbers serve as slight musical warnings of the hazards in partaking of certain social graces. The disc finishes up with a reprise cut of a title from the first CD, "Who's Your Daddy?"

This recording stands as another fine example of the Blues talent in the Denver area. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy may want to try to contact George deCaro through the Colorado Blues Society or his band, the Sultans of Cool. Recommended.

Ray Hoffmann