

DOWNBEAT

Jazz, Blues & Beyond Since 1934

Dave Keyes: *Two Trains* (MoMojo; ★★★★★ 39:54) For four decades, Dave Keyes has asserted himself as one of the leading roots pianists in New York. His allegiance to blues, boogie, R&B, gospel and Band-like rock is as strong as ever on his eighth album; he plays confidently at all tempos, summons up various emotional states and carries the influence of Leon Russell and Jerry Lee Lewis deep in his subconscious. Keyes isn't to be trifled with as a singer, either, showing presence in songs he wrote with upper-level Nashville pro Mark Sameth. Five of them, those with Rob Paparozzi's sterling harmonica present, are of surpassing worth.

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