Jon Regen & Neumann Make Beautiful Music Together in Tel Aviv

New York City-based jazz pianist, composer and singer Jon Regen stepped-out of Foothill Digital Productions in New York City today, holding a copy of his latest CD, 'Tel Aviv.' Regen displayed the CD proudly, emerging from a six-hour mastering session with legendary engineer Allan Tucker.

"This CD is the result of four musicians, twelve-thousand miles, and great microphones."

Regen, whose career took-off after he was voted runner-up in the 1996 Great American Jazz Piano Competition, has been an integral force in the bands of Ted Dunbar, Kyle Eastwood, and many other legendary jazz musicians. A Steinway Artist and protégé of world-renown pianist Kenny Barron, Regen garnered critical praise for his 2000 release, 'Jon Regen Trio – Live at the Blue Note,' which was heralded as one of the year's best by many jazz publications. His latest effort will undoubtedly create an even bigger musical buzz.

Recorded during a sold-out concert at the Tel Aviv Museum in February of this year, 'Tel Aviv' is a musical journey, highlighted by Regen's all-new Israeli band, and anchored by his tasteful, swinging piano work, and unique vocal style. And at the center of it all, are Neumann microphones.

"We didn't plan to record the concert at all, actually," Regen told me from New York. "I asked Shai Zingerman, the talented, young sound engineer at the Museum, to run some DAT tapes, just for archival sake. I had no idea we would end-up with such a remarkable set of performances. I think the key to the sound, which is both live and intimate at the same time, is the set of Neumann U87's we had to capture the ambience of the hall. I have always been a tremendous fan of Neumann mikes, from the legendary U47, to the U87's, KM184's, and now the new KMS105, which I plan to take on the road with me to sing through. The U87's have such a sweet tone - they're full and present, but still subtle. They make the hall come alive."

Regen has plans to include Neumann Microphones both in his future live and recording work.

"I'm planning a solo CD, recording it at home into my Pro-Tools rig. I have a beautiful 1936 Steinway Grand, and, coupled with a pair of U87's, the sound will jump-out from the CD. I'd also like to take a set of KM184's on the road, as well as the KMS105. You never know what the piano or PA will be like on each gig. Having a bunch of Neumann's in my aresenal will be like an insurance policy for the road."

Regen's new CD 'Tel Aviv' will be released August 21, on HiTone/Q&W Records, distributed in the U.S. by indie powerhouse Select-o-Hits, and in Europe by Warner Brothers.

