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Dave Bradshaw, Jr.'s new song "Jumpstep" oozes sexuality and freedom

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Dave Bradshaw, Jr. brings the anthem of summer 2015

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Jumpstep by Dave Bradshaw, Jr.

Rating: ★★★★★

Nothing says summer time like a cool breeze, a cold drink and [smooth jazz](#) playing on the radio. Summer now has a new anthem with the release of [Dave Bradshaw, Jr.](#)'s groove, "Jumpstep," which reveals a new superstar has emerged.

The song, by multi-talented and Southern California based keyboardist and composer Bradshaw, has everything a great summer anthem needs - high energy, a great groove and an instantly recognizable sound. Aside from being the perfect, radio friendly showcase for his melodic, funky and playfully jazzy keys, the song marks the launch of an exciting musical partnership with saxophonist, composer and producer Darren Rahn, who co-wrote and produced "Jumpstep."

Rahn, who has worked similar studio magic for everyone from Dave Koz, Eric Darius and Najee to Nate Harasim, Tim Bowman and the late Wayman Tisdale, is now working on new tracks with Bradshaw, including several slated to be follow-up singles – with an eye towards releasing the keyboardist's full length debut album later in 2015.

"After working as a sideman for so long, performing the music of other great artists, it's exciting to have the opportunity to develop my own style as a keyboardist and share my own music with people," says Bradshaw. To be able to come out of the gate strong and work with someone of Darren's caliber is like a dream come true."

The story behind Bradshaw's development as a contemporary urban jazz artist after years as a renowned and very versatile sideman in Southern California is as poignant as "Jumpstep" is uplifting. For 13 years, Bradshaw was a member of the Al Williams Jazz Society, a popular, multi-faceted ensemble led by the popular jazz drummer and jazz promoter and known for their regular gigs at Spaghetini in Seal Beach, California and rousing annual performances at the Long Beach Jazz Festival.

Bradshaw had the pleasure of opening for genre greats like Kenny G and Brian Culbertson. He was often inspired by their success and felt like he had the potential to become an artist and performer in his own right. But at some point, while continuing at the top of his game technically, he started feeling like he was losing his passion for music.

The passing of Bradshaw's father in 2010 changed everything, and made Bradshaw realize as never before that time was

quickly passing by. If he wanted to pursue deeper dreams, this was the time. Composing became a necessary catharsis, and he began putting all of his intense emotions over his dad's loss into music.

Excited by what he was writing, he invested in DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) software and started making his own beats and tracks. He was encouraged by many of his musical cohorts to do a recording. He started off very DIY, printing his own CDs with graphics he created himself.

Working with a radio promoter, Bradshaw was about to send the original track of "Jumpstep" out to stations when he heard some of Rahn's work for other artists and decided the producer could take his vibe to the next level. Rahn immediately heard Bradshaw's potential and the two developed the track, adding new melodic ideas in the verses and hiring Rahn regulars like bassist Mel Brown to replace the synth-generated tracks of Bradshaw's first version.

"I seriously could have come out with the track that became 'Jumpstep' a few months earlier," says Bradshaw, "but hearing the incredible work Darren had done for these other artists made me realize that his Midas touch was essential. The whole journey of working with him was magical, and even better, the two of us connected on a personal level as well and have become good friends as well as collaborators. I'm excited that we're working on new songs and I'm looking forward to making my debut album with him."

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