

Christopher Plock



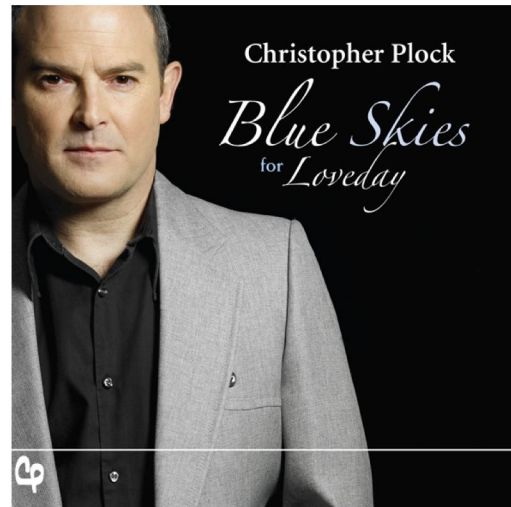
Christopher Plock does it all: A celebrated saxophonist (sometimes even playing two at a time), Chris' additional proficiency with clarinet, flute and percussion has placed his skills in high demand by some of Canada's leading music acts: **The Bourbon Tabernacle Choir**, **Ron Hawkins' Rusty Nails** and the late **Jeff Healey** have featured Chris in live gigs and recordings, while his work on the **K-OS** CD *Joyful Rebellion* netted him two Juno Awards. Canada's Sweetheart of Swing, **Alex Pangman**, frequently showcases Chris' horn playing in her live performances, while **JAZZ.FM** radio personality **Jaymz Bee** is a long time fan and collaborator. Chris was also prominently featured on the Jeff Healy produced debut album by **Terra Hazelton**, "Anybody's Baby". Chris and Terra are now often seen performing together at concerts and clubs.

Treehouse's popular children's TV program **Max and Ruby** features Chris' sax playing, along with a bouncy vocal duet with Canadian Jazz Diva **Molly Johnson**, and Chris even taught Monk star **Tony Shalub** how to play clarinet for an episode featuring country legend **Willie Nelson**.

In 2002, Chris released a debut solo album that brought both his playing and his singing to centre stage. "My Romance", a collection of 10 beloved Jazz standards, featured the voice of a true crooner. Chris' silky tenor, heard previously on Healey's recording of "Dark Town Strutter's Ball", soared over classics like "Mean To Me", "Bye Bye Blackbird" and "Since I Fell For You". The album's rendition of Horace Silver's "Peace" enjoyed heavy airplay on Toronto's **JAZZ.FM** radio station, and helped redefine Chris as an in-demand vocalist.

But live performances are this artist's first love. Having played with a diverse range of acts, Chris draws on a massive repertoire of Jazz, Blues, Funk, R&B and Pop as fuel for his high-octane show; the most sedate of audiences often surprise themselves on the dance floor, inspired by the performer's energy and passion for the music he plays.

Not surprisingly, this has made Chris a much sought-after performer at Toronto venues like The Rex, The Palais Royale, and the much-missed jazz clubs The Top of The Senator and The Montreal Bistro. **JAZZ.FM** has called on Christopher to be a part of their "One-Stop Jazz Safari" house band and has featured his vocal talents at two of their recent fund-raising events. Career highlights include being selected as featured vocalist for **Harry Belafonte's** attendance at 2007's Christian - Jewish Federation Fundraiser at Toronto's Royal York, and taking centre stage at the **Dusty Cole** memorial in January 2008 at the Winter Garden Theatre.



THE NEW ALBUM: *Blue Skies For Loveday*

Chris, proudly but sadly, was asked to sing at Jeff Healey's funeral. He sang Jeff's Jazz Wizards arrangement of "Stardust", knowing it would be the last time he would play this song in Jeff's presence.

Christopher has ever-since kept this rendition of "Stardust" on his set-list - and every time he sings this song it brings back the feelings he had for Jeff at that farewell performance.

In preparing his new album, Chris knew he had to get this arrangement on "tape". He had backed Jeff up for so many years on this song, and said his last good-byes to him by singing it for Jeff and his family and friends.

This set off the plan for his second album "**Blue Skies For Loveday**". Chris decided to record a number of classic song-book standards that he had performed with (but had not been recorded by) the Jazz Wizards, add in songs he has grown to inhabit through his solo live performances with his own combo, and top it all up with a few instrumentals that always seem to get a room moving for him.

In addition to his emotional rendering of "Stardust", Christopher's vocal performances include a unique, modern take of "Blue Skies", a New Orleans "second-line" inspired version of "Its Only A Paper Moon", a lightly swinging, horn fuelled arrangement of "A Foggy Day" and a jazz ballad version of John Hiatt's "Feels Like Rain"

With "**Blue Skies For Loveday**" Christopher moves his career to the next level, targeting national jazz radio play, jazz festival performances with his own combo, and regional theatre shows featuring his accessible, accomplished and memorable brand of jazz.

Booking:

Phone: 416.727.4500
hoppyplock@sympatico.ca

Christopher Plock
is on the Web @
christopherplock.ca