

Greg Allen Artists Proudly Presents – Chris Standring

Over 15 years since first dazzling the contemporary jazz world with his breakthrough 1998 set Velvet, Chris Standring still revels in his restless creativity, discovering fresh, freewheeling and innovative ways to share his passion for groove, melody and dynamic guitarisma.

Celebrating the milestone of album number Ten, Standring's still got the cool, trippy sonics happening via a colorful fusing of live instrument and DJ sounds. But this time, the British born, L.A. based hit maker fashions them as the vehicle to unleash his deeper chops as a powerhouse jazz player and improviser.

Over the course of nine hit albums and hundreds of live performances, he's worked with some of the jazziest, funkiest musicians in the business. Becoming a great sonic architect and producer by necessity, he instinctively knows the perfect players to achieve specific sounds.

Ten is driven by those electronic DJ sounds and live instruments with Standring playing guitar on top. Bassists Dan Lutz (acoustic) and Andre Berry (electric) pair perfectly with Chris Coleman, Dave Karasony and Sergio Gonzales. Dino Soldo handles the sly horn dips and swoops on the trippy electronic soul jam "Snake Oil" and the sly, atmospheric romance "Parisian Blue".

While Standring handles a lot of the keyboards and programming, he finds guest spots for Rodney Lee (whose Hammond B-3 creates an organ vibe on the soul-fusion "Like This, Like That"), Jim Wilson (who adds acoustic piano elegance to the sensual and intimate "Carousel") and Jeff Babko (who adds meditative depth to the shuffling "Magic Carpet Ride via his sparkling Fender Rhodes).

The guitarist also continues his playful fling with the quirky but highly expressive talk box, which he used on the mystical funk driven opener "Ready Steady Flow" and the ballad "Soul Vibration. Rounding out the ten on Ten are the easy-flowing dance groove fired "Bossa Go Go" (with DJ scratch effects behind Standring's thoughtful lead guitar soloing; the moody, old school soul-jazz seduction "A Piece of Cake"; and a hauntingly ambient final reminder that it's "Never Too Late."

Standring grew up in Aylesbury, England, studying at London College of Music and writing music for the BBC and for several theatrical orchestrations before moving to L.A. in 1991. After playing in Lauren Christy's band, Standring, working with Rodney Lee under the name Solar System, honed in on the R&B driven jazz sound that would become his trademark; releasing the acid jazz oriented self titled album featuring vocal covers of "Walk on the Wild Side" and "Me & Mrs. Jones." Standring started Ultimate Vibe Recordings, on which he has released each of his albums since Love & Paragraphs in 2008.

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