

## **John Proulx Quartet**

Los Angeles singer-pianist-composer John Proulx's (pronounced "Proo") piano playing is hot and swinging, and his voice recalls the smooth, mellow sounds of a young Chet Baker. In fact, Proulx's 2009 CD on MAXJAZZ, "Baker's Dozen-Remembering Chet Baker" is a tribute to the late trumpet player and vocalist.

Proulx's CD "The Best Thing For You," co-produced with pianist Bill Cunliffe, showcases a wide variety of outstanding musicians, including Chuck Berghofer, Joe Labarbera, Larry Koonse, Bob Sheppard, Ron Stout, Jeremy Boersma, with guest vocals by Sara Gazarek and Michael Feinstein.

These releases, beginning with Proulx's 2006 debut CD, "Moon and Sand," have garnered national and international acclaim, and his fan base is quickly growing. In addition to his own group, Proulx has performed with Anita O'Day, Melissa Manchester, Natalie Cole and Marian McPartland.

Proulx also is a Grammy-winning composer. Jazz legend Nancy Wilson recorded "These Golden Years," a song that he co-wrote with lyricist D. Channsin Berry, for her 2006 Grammy-winning CD, "Turned to Blue." Jazz singer Mary Stallings recorded songs he co-wrote with lyricist K. Lawrence Dunham, "Stuck in a Dream" and "Before You Know It." Deana Martin also recorded "Stuck in a Dream." Proulx teamed with Melissa Manchester on her CD, "You Gotta Love the Life," which includes Al Jarreau on vocals.

Proulx began his formal musical education at age 3 in Grand Rapids, Mich., on Suzuki violin, but quickly switched to classical piano. His grandfather, Clyde Proulx, was a jazz guitarist with the Clyde McCoy Big Band, and introduced John to the world of jazz. Hooked on the freedom of improvisation, his education took him to Chicago to study at Roosevelt University's Chicago School of Performing Arts. In 2001, John moved to Los Angeles to further his musical pursuits.

For more information, please go to: <http://www.johnproulx.com>

**PHOTO CREDIT:** Photo courtesy of John Proulx.