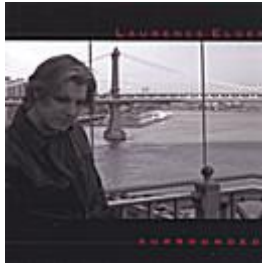


Mp3 Laurence Elder - Surrounded



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"With the integration of voice, words and possibly the hippest harmony to be featured in a so-called "commercial" album in a long time, Laurence Elder emerges as a force, not just a piano player." -Kenny Werner, Grammy nominated composer, jazz pianist 11 MP3 Songs JAZZ: Smooth Jazz, POP: Piano

Details: Laurence and his band are swiftly establishing a strong musical presence in the wake of their sold-out CD release concert in Miami Beach. They have already earned a four-star review in Modern Drummer, as well as high praise from luminaries in the music field including Al DiMeola, Nestor Torres, and Kenny Werner, who wrote the liner notes for "Surrounded." This fresh, coherent blend of jazz, pop, blues, rock and Latin influences, along with Elder's "triple threat" talents as a singer-songwriter-pianist, truly set this project apart as an important new original sound. His band consists of the area's most sought after musicians, whose collective performing credits include Tito Puente, Nestor Torres, Ruben Blades, Paquito D'Rivera, Juan Luis Guerra, and Chayenne, among many others. Laurence's foundation as a seasoned jazz pianist has served him well as he has evolved into a singer-songwriter, and can be traced back to his New York City roots, where by his early teens he was already sitting in at local blues clubs. His interest in music grew steadily, and he enrolled in Shenandoah Conservatory at age 21, earning his undergraduate degree in Jazz studies. During this time he became a fixture on the Washington DC jazz scene - a well known bandleader and coveted sideman - before eventually moving south to pursue his Master's degree in jazz piano from the University of Miami. It was there that he created the foundation and forged the important relationships that would lead to his current project. Since emerging from UM in 2001, Laurence has devoted his musical energy to his new album, where he teams up with drummer/producer Carlomagno Araya, and utilizes his own gifts as a singer, songwriter, pianist, arranger, and producer. This project is an amalgamation of his various musical influences, and has

attracted a line up of world class personnel, including Paquito D'Rivera and Peter Erskine.

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