

## Mp3 Ian Toms - Open



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Swinging small group jazz from some of Canada's best young players. Think Jim Hall meets Grant Green meets Pat Metheny... 8 MP3 Songs JAZZ: Traditional Jazz Combo, JAZZ: Bebop Details: A native of Prince Edward Island, Canada, Ian Toms recently completed a Masters degree in jazz performance at McGill University. In addition to numerous radio and television appearances, Ian was a featured artist at the 2006 PEI Jazz and Blues Festival, 2006 PEI Guitar Festival, 2005 PEI Jazz and Blues Festival, and the 2004 Best of the Island Jazz and Blues Showcase. He has performed over four hundred shows in Canada and has played with many jazz luminaries including Doug Riley, Pat LaBarbera, Phil Woods, Kevin Dean, Joel Miller, and Christine Jensen. Ian's debut CD, OPEN, features seven original compositions with a band of Canadian rising stars. The tunes range in texture from Kenny Wheeler-esque to straight-ahead organ quartet, with a solo piece and a vocal number thrown in for good measure. The album was officially launched on July 8, 2006 to an excellent crowd at the PEI Jazz and Blues Festival.

\_\_\_\_\_ Praise for OPEN: "Recorded as part of his masters thesis for McGill, Open showcases Toms talents as a player and as a composer with a set of seven original pieces that reflect both a diversity of influences and his own versatility. Toms is an exceedingly fine player, fluid, very tasteful and adventurous without being showy. He comes across on this indy release as a very economical player in the sense that he puts a lot out there but seldom, if ever, wastes a note. In short, Open is all wheat, no chaff." -Doug Gallant, The Guardian, July 7, 2006 \_\_\_\_\_ Praise for Ian Toms: "I was initially dumbfounded, and continually astounded throughout the entire evening's performance, by the mystifying work of Toms on guitar. After hearing his first solo, in fact, I basically thought that I could just leave at that point, and I would have felt like it was all worth the drive and my time to come there, if only to hear that." -Todd MacLean, The Guardian, August 26, 2005

\_\_\_\_\_ Check out the band: A former student (and housemate) of Dr. Lonnie Smith, Montreal organ virtuosa Vanessa Rodrigues lends her talents to OPEN on Hammond and Fender Rhodes. She has preformed with some very heavy-hitters including Ronnie Cuber, Dave Douglas, Mike Murley, and John Abercrombie. Her recent recordings include a CD with saxist Dave Turner as well as her own jazz-funk album SOUL PROJECT. Baritone saxophonist Paul Nedzela is a New York native who was living in Montreal at the time of this recording. He was recently accepted into the elite Masters program at the Juilliard School in New York and appears on albums with the acclaimed McGill big band. Prince Edward Island native Richard Knox has been playing drums with Ian Toms since 2001. He has performed with such jazz greats as Phil Woods, Pat LaBarbera, Alex Dean and David Restivo. Admired for his strong sense of swing and musicality, not to mention the energy to kick a big band, Rich Knox is a name to watch out for. Richard also appears on McGill big band recordings. Holding down the bottom end of the band, Miles Perkin is a first-call bassist in Montreal. He has given concerts with saxophonists David Binney, Joe Lovano, and Chris Potter, and has performed duo with Bob Brookmeyer. Miles released an album as leader of his group COMMON THREAD in the fall of 2005 and is currently studying and playing in New York. Now working in Toronto, singer Julian Humphreys appears on OPEN for one track, Walter. Julian has been described as a classic sound by Andy Sheppard of CBC's AfterHours radio program. Julian has studied with Mark Murphy, Andre White, and Wray Downes, and recently released a beautiful album of standards entitled TIME AFTER TIME. \_\_\_\_\_ OPEN was recorded and mixed by Andre White at Studio St. Urbain and mastered by Steve Bellamy at the Banff Centre for the Arts. Julia Schurman created the graphic design and Tiyanne Rushton provided photography.

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