

Mp3 Mark Winkler Sings Bobby Troup - Jazz: Jazz Vocals



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Jazz vocal tribute to the songs of Bobby Troup, featuring swinging arrangements of "Route 66", "Girl Talk" and more 13 MP3 Songs JAZZ: Jazz Vocals, JAZZ: Swing/Big Band Details: Whether he's telling poignant and picturesque Tales From Hollywood or going Easy the Hard Way, Mark Winkler always aims for the cool, dashes it up with jazz and just can't stop swinging. As both a singer and songwriter and ever aspiring hipster, he discovers a profound creative and spiritual connection to the legendary Bobby Troup, best known for the standards "Route 66" and "Baby Baby All The Time" but whose catalogue-as Winkler joyfully discovered--runs far richer and deeper. Winkler's magnificent Sings Bobby Troup is an exciting and passionate musical valentine to a legend whose vocal stylings and music helped define the West Coast cool of another place and time. Sharing, as Winkler sings on the lone original song "Two Guys from the Coast," "a love of all things that swing," the singer and his late muse bring that vibe to a new generation. "When I sing 'Lemon Twist,' I imagine I'm wearing a turtleneck and holding a martini and all is right with the world," says Winkler. "When I sing Bobby Troop, I can't help but feel cool." Winkler's 2000 recording Easy The Hard Way was a straight-ahead jazz flavored hit, reaching #22 on the Gavin Report's jazz chart. He was preparing to do a follow-up featuring a mix of originals and standards, and was seeking three outside tunes to complement his own songs when he came upon the songs that would create a whole new project. "I started listening to a lot of old recordings to find songs that weren't done so many times that they'd become clich," he says. "I always liked the handful of Bobby songs I knew and had wanted to hear more of them. I ordered two of his classic CDs from the 50s from the internet and absolutely fell in love. I chose three, then another three, and before I knew it, I was doing twelve of them! As a lyricist, I love the cleverness of his words and the casual and witty way he wrote and sang. I have a similar singing style and knew I could bring them up to date and make them sound fresh, while also

having fun. The songs are still hip and sexy, a perfect addition to this martini lounge generation."

Produced by Barbara Brighton, who also helmed *Easy The Hard Way*, Mark Winkler Sings Bobby Troup features the bright and infinitely jazzy backing of two famed Los Angeles ensembles-the Anthony Wilson Trio (featuring Wilson's electric guitar dazzle and Joe Bagg's lush piano and Hammond B-3) and pianist Jon Mayer's group, which plays with Winkler in Los Angeles. Bob Shepard's sax adds a soulful texture in all the right spots as well. Casual Troup admirers will no doubt become true fanatics when they hear the singer's enthusiastic spins on incredible pieces like "Hungry Man" (featuring wacky rhymes like "Tucumcari/one I plan to marry" and "East St. Louie/Chop Suey"), the playful and poignant "You're Looking At Me" and Troup's clever ode to the Goldilocks tale, "Three Little Bears." The crafty and crazy feel of cuts like "Girl Talk" is balanced by poignant romantic gems like "Meaning of the Blues" and "Baby Baby All The Time" (covered recently by Diana Krall). Other tracks include "Walking Shoes," "Learn to Love" and the heartfelt elegy "A Young Man Is Gone." Had Bobby Troup still been an active recording artist in the 80s and 90s before his passing, he would most certainly have enjoyed covering a Mark Winkler tune or two. Winkler, a Hollywood native, is an award winning songwriter whose credits include Dianne Reeves, Randy Crawford, Nancy Wilson and David Benoit. This past year marked the re-release of Liza Minelli's *Tropical Nights*, featuring Winkler's title song. In addition to his seven popular pop, smooth jazz and traditional jazz recordings (including 1995's critically acclaimed *Tales from Hollywood* and 1991's *Color of Love*), he has also written and recorded with Joe Sample, Boney James, Peter White and Billie Childs. In 2002, Cool Sound Records in Tokyo captured the entire Mark Winkler experience on a double CD set, which includes greatest hits and rarities. In recent years, he's explored the theatrical side of life as the writer of the off-Broadway musical review *Naked Boys Singing!*, currently in its fourth year in New York and also playing in Chicago, Washington D.C. and Brazil. He's also enjoyed success as a Creator and songwriter to another musical, *Too Old For the Chorus*, and has a new musical with David Benoit about the life of Marilyn Monroe set to go into workshops in 2003.

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