

## Mp3 Jay Craggs - Land Ho



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His guitar chops have kept him in demand both live and in the studio, and this CD has it all - jazz, fusion, R&B and pop. 9 MP3 Songs JAZZ: Smooth Jazz, JAZZ: Jazz Fusion Details: Guitarist Jay Craggs has entertained audiences across the country with his impressive technique, great feel, and command of his instrument. Jay's first solo album, "Land Ho", features pianist Frank Mantooth, bassists Bob Lizik Larry Gray, trumpeter Jeff Tyzik, drummers Dave Mancini Jim Hines, and Jay's original music. His styles of choice range from jazz to funk to R&B to rock&roll. As a guitarist and composer, Jay has shared the stage and/or recorded with many jazz notables including Wynton Marsalis, Bobby Shew, Frank Mantooth, Chris Vadalla, Jeff Tyzik, Frank Dorite, Ritchie Cole, Dennis DiBlasio, Dave Mancini, and others. Jay's album credits for performing or engineering include Better Way, by the group Dyad (for Stoic, 2003), Cloud Faktory, by the group Retrobeast (for Earth Island Records, 2003), Sophisticated Lady by Frank Mantooth, (for SeaBreeze, 1995) Land Ho, a solo album (for Stoic, 1994), Stain, by Living Colour, (for Epic, 1993), and producer and engineering credits on many regional and local artist CD projects. Jay's technical background is also in demand in facilities installation work, recording studios, and by national recording artists. He has published several guitar and technology-related magazine articles and has done technical writing for musical equipment manufacturers. As a technical consultant, Jay has worked as with national acts such as Prince, David Bowie, Rush, The Tom-Tom Club, Night Ranger, Living Colour, and Al DiMeola. As an educator, Jay has developed curriculum and taught music technology courses for Columbia College Chicago, Madison Media Institute, and UW-Whitewater. Jay has also presented clinics, lectures, and performances at colleges and throughout the U.S., including the Grove School of Music, Guitar Institute of Technology (G.I.T.), Musicians Institute in Los Angeles, Full Sail School of the Recording Arts, University of Nebraska-Omaha, UW-Platteville, Carroll College, North Central College,

NACA Conferences, and music industry trade shows such as NAMM. ALBUM REVIEW: Jay Craggs "Land Ho" [Stoic 1001] Danny Mager-"Night Sights Sounds" Magazine, Madison, WI When people think "Milwaukee", the images they conjure up usually have something to do with suds and sausage. Musically, Wisconsin's largest city boasts an active alternative rock and heavy metal scene, healthy country clubs, and a very nice smattering of the blues. Ah, but there's more to the Brew City's music scene than meets the eye - it is also home to an innovator in the world of jazz fusion, Jay Craggs. Jazz fusion is not something you see everyday in the east side clubs. Nonetheless, Craggs has issued his first CD of jazz fusion, "Land Ho", to enter into Milwaukee's increasingly interesting music mix. Land Ho falls somewhere in the middle of the fusion universe; a little softer than the Dixie Dregs, yet considerably more rocking than Pat Metheny. The title track has a decidedly Caribbean flavor to it as steel drums are interspersed with soaring guitar and pulsating bass. Craggs years of intense training are quite apparent as each track on "Land Ho" explores a different musical space, from the more funkified jazz of "The Face" to the rocking "I Need You" on which Craggs adds vocals replete with a corps of female backup singers, to the downright Stevie-Wonderish "All Night". For Jay Craggs, who has worked as a consultant to such established stars as Adrian Belew, Rush, Prince, and the Tom Tom Club, his musical ship definately seems to have come in with "Land Ho".

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