## Mp3 California Artists - The Roads I Left Behind



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A CLASSIC AND IMPORTANT SONGWRITER WHO CAN WRITE ANYTHING FROM COUNTRY TO GOSPEL TO ROCK AND ROLL 22 MP3 Songs POP: 80's Pop, EASY LISTENING: Musicals/Broadway Details: ASCAP songwriter MICHAEL RICCIARDI has been writing songs for over twenty-three years. Since 1980 The number of songs he has composed now exceeds FIVE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SEVEN and the list is growing He has been awarded many achievement awards including those from two performing rights organizations. Here is Michael's very latest CD featuring all CALIFORNIA ARTISTS. Some are now well established. Some are definitely on their way! \*\*One artist found here is now on Broadway and another is in an Off Broadway production. \*\* Several are touring in naional shows. Some have even been on Television. Here you will find \*\*GREG LASTRAPES, \*\*JOSHUA KRANZ AND NEW ALBUM ARTISTS \*\*ALAN GUNO andf \*\*ROSEMARY LAACK. The songs featured have received awards and even nationl attention. Some wewre appauded by the mayor of New York Cty and one.... \*WE ARE DIFFERENT NOW by the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, himself. GEORGE BUSH So how did this song writer MICHAEL RICCIARDI and his long songwriting career begin? Well, it was back in Ontario, Ca. in 1980 a local theatre group (the now legendary GALERY THEATRE in Ontario, California THE GALLERY THEATRE was putting on a very lavish production of the MGM version of THE WIZARD OF OZ and suddenly discovered it could not afford the royalties. Fortunately, the original L. Frank Baum classic story itself had fallen into the public domain. MICHAEL had already been cast as the Scarecrow and when the production was about to be cancelled. Michael was suddenly challenged to write an entire new script (book) of the story and to write an entirely new score. He still played the Scarecrow, sold the ads in the program while maintaining a forty-five hour a week local job in a camera store. The only arranger he could find in such a short notice wrote all the arrangements in F sharp. (Just the way

Irving Berlin used to compose.) Fortunately, the problems were solved and the production went out to incredibly positive reviews. Along the way, MICHAEL found his long-time collaborator and great friend RANDY LOUIS AMES who together with EDDY MAGEE CLEMENT combined forces and talents to form YELLOW BRICK PROMISES Under this creative umbrella, the trio produced five musical productions that eventually found audiences in Los Angeles, New York, and Ontario and Florida. Some of the songs found here are from that very collaboration including the title song, "Somewhere" (from that original production of THE WIZARD OF OZ) and "It All Begins With Happy Thoughts" Listen also for "KNOCK, KNOCK" a very charming song written recently by the two composers Randy is a gifted arranger and composer in his own right. He is now teaching music in Orange County, California. One of the musicals that this group co-composed was a Christmas themed fantasy entitled "THE INVITATION" THE INVITATION was broadcast on forty-eight public radio stations on a Christmas Eve in 1983, the only original musical to be so performed. In 1984, MICHAEL collaborated with a now classic composer-arranger by the name of J. ERIC SCHMIDT. Together Michael and Eric wrote an entire original score for "ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY" the musical story of Frank and Lillian Gilbreth who together raised twelve children in the Roaring Twenties and sparked the catch phrase "Cheaper by the Dozen" Together the Gilbreths invented touch typing, modern surgery procedures and the push button washing-machine Eric has composed cartoon music for Warner Brothers, MGM, and the Disney Studios and has worked extensively as the arranger for John Tesh. But Eric has also written magnificent symphonies and classical music -- one symphony deals with accepting Cancer in ome's own immediate family and the stages a son goes through in dealing with the coming death of a parent. ERIC wrote the score for Walt Disney's production of "One Magic Christmas"and the entire score for the Tom and Jerry Movie for MGM, along with Saturday morning classics "Dark Wing Duck" and the "Tweety and Sylvester"hour. Two of the songs from that collaboration can be found here. They are "LASSO A NEW STAR" and "TWO EMPTY WORLDS" All in all there are twenty-two songs here. One for every year that Michael has been writing music. You will find rock, pop, show business, patriotic anthems, rhythm and blues and even with one ballads accompanied by a twenty-four piece orchestra. There are \*\* NOVELTY TUNES \*\*SOFT JAZZ AND MIDDLE OF THE ROAD The players are all rich in diversity and talent. These include GREG LASTRAPES who Michael has known since that very first musical in 1980 when Greg impressed many in his debut production. There is the multi-talented duo of TONY WESTBROOK and TERRY SNYDER. Tony was the solo artist of

Michael's first album HIGHWAY TO A DREAM. Tony is featured solo in two of the songs of this album and several others in combination with Terry. Listen for "All The Things That You Need" and "Miles to Go" as real highlights. ONE LAST MIRACLE sung solo by TONY WESTBROOK is from the upcoming Broadway show \*\*ONCE MORE WITH SPIRIT JOSHUA KRANZ is a fantastic young singer who has traveled in theatre companies all over Europe. He has starred in performances in The Crystal Cathedral and many professional theatre productions all over the West Coast. Listen for Joshua's contributions in the song "We Are Different Now!" and "Seize the Moment" (sung with Rachel Scott) and his solo efforts in "Somewhere" and the very uniquely original "Knock, Knock!" That very different Jamaican accent is his in a song about not giving up on your dreams. RACHEL SCOTT is a young singer to be reckoned with. Her mother, Beatrice was a hit song writer in the 60's and together with her band and her manager, brother Guy Verdi, she is going to be a majortalent A very unique voice can be found here as well. It belongs to Evan DeAngelis who is a world-wide performer with a very unique sound. In this CD He sings "Free". Add the talents of ROSEMARY LAACK who duets with Joshua in "We Have Never Been Stronger", ALAN GUNNO is a multi-talented recording artist in his own right with a new hot hot CD who sings in this album the songs: \*\*DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME?" \*\*THE ART OF SAYING NOTHING There is also RCA VICTOR and Las Vegas entertainer JIMMY CHAPEL. Here's a classic [performer who began his career by writing a song by the late DEAN MARTIN and opened in LAS VEGAS for classic comedian DON RICKLES. Add them all up you have a fully entertaining seventy minutes of music entertainment in every genre but rap. The real star of this CD shines on musical arranger and conductor TIMOTHY DORAN. Tim has been composing, conducting and arranging since 1976 and has conducted orchestras in the Hollywood Bowl and for Warner Brothers. Tim has accompanied the great Kate Smith (in her last public rendition of GOD BLESS AMERICA has dozens of arrangements published in the children's and religious markets and can play five instruments. Michael has written songs for the classic Golden Book series of stories, including "The Little Red Caboose" "The Sailor Dog' and "The House That Had Enough" Special thanks to SMOOTH SOUNDS STUDIO in Van Nuys, California where this CD was produced, recorded and engineered by: MR. JERRY JACKSON It is respectfully dedicated to the memory of noted award winning educator JOHN SMITHSON. Michael can be contacted by writing to: Songwriter2day @aol.com. New singers are welcome to contact him at Songwriter 2 day @aol.com OR...... BY CALLING HIS PUBLISHER CREATIVE HORIZONS (818) 982-5699

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