Peter Hum Quintet A Boy's Journey

A Boy's Journey, the debut recording by Canadian jazz pianist Peter Hum, is a spirited and diverse collection of original compositions, showcasing exceptional playing by top-notch Canadian musicians.

Released in late 2010, the CD is "a celebration -- a modern, forward-looking and mainly upbeat session that sparkles with positive energy," says the *Montreal Gazette*'s Irwin Block.

From the hopeful, surging opener *Take the High Road* to the forthright swingers *New Toy* and *C.G.*, from the 7/4 minor-key romp *Unagi* to *Three Wishes*, the ambitious, uplifting suite that closes the disc, *A Boy's Journey*, as Block says, is "a lyrical triumph, as each of the 10 songs tells a story." That's most true of the title track, inspired by the travels from Canada to China and back that Peter's late father made, decades before Peter was born.

Recorded thanks to a grant from the City of Ottawa, *A Boy's Journey* is available on iTunes, CD Baby and at peterhum.com.

Based in Ottawa, his hometown, Peter recorded *A Boy's Journey* at Venturing Hill Farms, a performance space nestled in the Gatineau Hills in Luskville, Quebec. He was joined by long-time friends so that the disc is informed by musical and personal rapports that stretch back several decades.

Bringing Peter's music to life are the stellar saxophonists **Kenji Omae**, who is based these days in South Korea, and **Nathan Cepelinski**, who is finishing studies at the Berklee College of music in Boston. Both Kenji (who played with Kurt Rosenwinkel, Jimmy Heath's Big Band and many others in New York) and Nathan are from Ottawa and first played with Peter when they were teenagers.

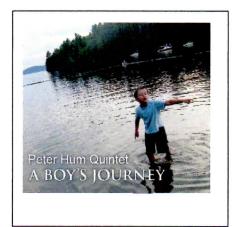
Bassist Alec Walkington, a mainstay of Montreal's jazz scene who has performed with Joe Henderson, Mark Murphy and many others, is also from Ottawa. He and Peter played together during their high school and university years. Toronto-based **Ted Warren** (who has played with Rob McConnell's Boss Brass, Mike Murley and Jerry Bergonzi, to name a few) played regularly with Peter when they attended McGill University in Montreal.

A self-taught musician, Peter considers himself very fortunate to have performed with some of Canada's leading jazz artists, including Sonny Greenwich, Phil Nimmons, Pat LaBarbera, Reg Schwager and Mike Rud. When he was in his early 20s, Peter led a sextet that won the 1986 Lowenbrau Jazz Search in Montreal and competed in the 1987 Montreal International Jazz Festival's cross-Canada jazz competition. Since returning to Ottawa in 1990, Peter has played with the top jazz musicians in Canada's capital, including John Geggie, Rob Frayne, Mike Essoudry and Petr Cancura.

Peter's performances have been broadcast on CBC's *Canada Live*, *Bandwidth* and *Jazzbeat* programs. Excerpts from a November 2010 concert will be broadcast in 2011 by Societe Radio-Canada.

A journalist by day who has been on staff at the *Ottawa Citizen* since 1990, Peter blogs prolifically on jazz at jazzblog.ca.





Track Listing:

- 1. Take the High Road
- 2. New Toy
- 3. La tendresse, s.v.p.
- 4. Big Lou
- 5. Midway
- 6. Sojourner's Truth
- 7. C.G.
- 8. A Boy's Journey
- 9. Unagi
- 10. Three Wishes

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