

Joel Plaskett

Canada has produced some of the world's most enduring songwriters and Joel Plaskett belongs on the top shelf with the best of them.

Since spending his teenaged years recording and touring with Halifax indie upstarts Thrush Hermit, Plaskett has been writing his own story. After releasing two critically acclaimed albums - *In Need of Medical Attention* (1999) and *Down At The Khyber* (2001) - independently, Joel signed to MapleMusic Recordings for the release of 2003's *Truthfully Truthfully*, a rock tour de force with his band, The Emergency. That record scored with critics and fans alike and truly put Plaskett on the national radar once and for all. *Truthfully Truthfully* was nominated for a Juno Award for Alternative Album of the Year and won an East Coast Music Award for Rock Recording of the Year.

During a summer break from touring in 2004, Joel responded to a longtime fan's offer of free recording time at a home studio in Mesa, Arizona. He packed up his trusty Chevy Suburban and drove across America with his songwriting notebook in the passenger seat. The results of that journey are currently available on Plaskett's MapleMusic effort, a solo album called *La De Da*.

The album is "solo" in the sense that Joel plays all the instruments but it's by no means a simple acoustic project. It also isn't a permanent move away from his work with The Emergency. Rather, it's the mark of an artist at home with his instincts and his creative muse and one that's willing to follow fearlessly where those imperatives lead.

La De Da has attracted attention in regional and national media and has topped the Canadian campus music chart for months running.

Joel's latest DVD release, *Make A Little Noise* is a collection of typically amazing live performances featuring the excellent Emergency band as well as solo shows - with a collection of family and friends - from the Marquee Club and Rebecca Cohn Auditorium in his hometown of Halifax, Nova Scotia as well as Toronto's Hugh's Room. It also includes the entire video library from Joel's CDs: *In Need of Medical Attention* - 1999, *Down at the Khyber* - 2001 (nominated for Best New Artist Juno), *Truthfully Truthfully* - 2003 (nominated for Alternative Album of the Year Juno) and *La De Da* - 2004, plenty of never-before-seen material and a couple of surprises as well.

The DVD package contains a bonus CD EP with three brand-spanking-new Emergency band recordings, produced by Gordie Johnson (Big Sugar, Black Crowes, The Trews). The first single, (Can I Go) *Nowhere With You*, enlisted the help of Nova Scotian pals John Angus MacDonald and Jack Syperek from The Trews on backing vocals (as well as legendary Faces member, Ian McLagan, on keyboards) and became - finally - a staple at radio coast to coast charting at #3 on Hot AC radio.

Joel is currently on tour throughout Canada and the US in support of his latest release. He and the Emergency will be doing select dates over the fall while preparing for the next Emergency record, due in early 2007.

As anyone familiar with this artist will tell you, "it's only a matter of time."

Awards & Achievements.....

2006 Music Nova Scotia Entertainer of the Year Award
Music Nova Scotia Songwriter of the Year Award (Nowhere With You)
ECMA Male Artist of the Year Award (La De Da)
ECMA Songwriter of the Year Award (Happen Now)
ECMA Album of the Year nomination
ECMA Single of the Year nomination
ECMA Video the Year nomination
Juno Songwriter of the Year nomination (La De Da)
The Coast voted "Best Canadian Male Musician"
The Coast voted "Best Local Male Musician"
The Coast voted "Best Local Album (La De Da)"

2005 MIANS Album of the Year (La De Da)
MIANS Male Artist of the Year Award
MIANS Pop/ Rock Recording of the Year Award
ECMA Rock Recording of the Year Award (Truthfully, Truthfully)
ECMA Album of the Year nomination
ECMA Group of the Year nomination
The Coast voted "Best Canadian Male Musician"
The Coast voted "Best Local Male Musician"
The Coast voted "Best Local Song"

2004 MIANS Group of the Year Award (Truthfully, Truthfully)
MIANS Alternative Recording of the Year Award
MIANS Entertainer of the Year Award
Juno Best Alternative Album of the Year nomination
The Coast voted "Best Local Band"
The Coast voted "Best Local Album (Truthfully, Truthfully)"

2003 The Coast voted "Best Local Band"
The Coast voted "Best Local Live Act"

2002 Juno Best New Artist of the Year nomination (Down at the Khyber)
ECMA Rock Recording of the Year nomination
ECMA Best New Artist of the Year nomination
ECMA Video of the Year nomination (Maybe We Should Just Go Home)
The Coast voted "Best Local Album (Down at the Khyber)"
The Coast voted "Best Video (Maybe We Should Just Go Home)"
The Coast voted "Best Male Solo Artist"

film & television placements.....

Nowhere With You - Zellers Summer 2006 Campaign
Work Out Fine, Nowhere With You, Come On Teacher - Citizen Duane
True Patriot Love, This is A Message, Just Go Home - TV show Food Jammers
Extraordinary - 20th Century Fox
Absentminded Melody - 15 Love (the Series)
Absentminded Melody - North South TV Mini Series
Maybe We Should Just Go Home - Fashion TV

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