

Independent Recording Artist

astrid

Red Umbrella

"On the cover of Astrid Sars' debut CD *Red Umbrella* the music is described as "global-retro/bossa urban-jazz/chill". That's a lot to promise. Fortunately the Netherlands-born chanteuse, alto saxophonist, and songwriter delivers. Sars is one of the most experienced artists on the Vancouver jazz-lounge scene, and her recording is a sophisticated stylistic blend, characterized by tight arrangements, smooth vocals, and sultry ambience."

Tony Montague Globe & Mail

The only name you need to remember for a real fusion of Bossa/ Pop/Jazz and chill is **Astrid**. Her already acclaimed debut **Red Umbrella** exudes style with substance, charm, chill, elegance and intelligence all at once.

Co-produced by Astrid and the sought after multi-talented **Kerry Galloway** *Red Umbrella* reveals an artist with sensibility and sound all her own. *Red Umbrella* draws you in immediately with **The Key's** crackly clave - a clever double entendre - deftly accentuated by the piano keys of Chris Gestrin. The other 10 tracks are just as mesmerizing ranging from the insistent **Turn Me Loose** (on video this fall), to the sparkly smooth **Spin Off** (you can just see the bathing suit girls on water ski's), the poignant and sparse vocal and bass of **Guy in the Third Row**. The big bad funk of the instrumental **I Dunno Yet** guests Ross Barrett on tenor sax and sons Tim Sars, baritone Sax and Nathan Barrett on trumpet.

All the tracks benefit from Galloway's amazing arranging and sequencing abilities. Astrid has also assembled a distinguished group of players for this project: Chris Gestrin, keys, Raphael Geronimo, percussion, Randal Stoll, drums, Finn Manniche, cello with Galloway on bass/guitar and Astrid herself on alto sax and flute.

Astrid also performs with her trio "Indigo" backing New-York Poet Leanne Averbach in Vancouver, Toronto and New-York.

Astrid has performed throughout Europe and in Queretaro (Mexico) with **Moving Heart Theatre** and an international cast of 25 in 2002. Her music has been used for the documentaries **The Return** and **The longed for knowing** by **Fumiko Kiyooka**, **Northern Lights** by **Craig McCaw** (Planetarium Music), and **The Lesson** a short dance film by **Jennifer Mascal**.

Astrid will be touring in Canada and beyond throughout summer and fall of 2006.

Press Reaction

"As genre-hopping goes, this combination of boss-nova and jazz is confident and stylish" **T.H E-Today: Quickspins The Province**

"As a vocalist, Astrid is kind of a cross between Bebel Gilberto and Sade: she'd be at home at a Brazilian carnival or an urban lounge."

Mark Andrews "The Queue "The Vancouver Sun

"Just like a nice cool breeze on a hot summer day Astrid sings us some refreshing new bossa sounds with hints of mellow pop melodies, jazzy passages and funky smooth grooves. The sounds are familiar but with a refreshingly nice vibe..." **Marc Xavier Leblanc**

Host of (((la photo sonore))) on CKUM Radio J 93.5FM Moncton NB

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