



RODNEY TAYLOR

Rodney Taylor's been playing music since he was 10 and it was only two weeks after graduating high school when his musical career started to take off! Taylor began to tour with various groups and participating in recording sessions. After establishing himself in the gospel world—which included a stint as choral and musical director at the world famous First A.M.E. church in Los Angeles, he released his solo debut *Soul 4-1-1* on Command/Epic Records in 1991. His talents as a vocal arranger include a song on the "Barney" film soundtrack featuring Take 6, Jeffrey Osborne and the First A.M.E church choir. His accomplishments include receiving a NAACP Award nomination for Best Musical Director, for "Has Anybody Seen My Rainbow" in 2002 and he also was the featured saxophonist on the opening theme song in the Robert Townsend TV sitcom "The Parent Hood".

The title of Rodney Taylor's latest independent contemporary jazz release asks a fascinating question the popular, in demand saxophonist has been asking all his life:

Can I Blow For You? Building a multi-faceted career as a touring and studio sideman in the gospel, R&B and jazz worlds these past 20 years, the Southern California based musician and songwriter has received an overwhelming "yes" response from an incredible number of artists: Anita Baker (whom he toured with from 2006 to 2009), Vesta Williams, The Emotions, Brian McKnight, Doc Powell, El DeBarge, Deniece Williams, Chaka Khan and gospel greats Phil and Brenda Nicholas and Edwin Hawkins.



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ON STAGE

When Rodney Taylor hits the stage and starts blowing his horn, it's a sight to behold! The crowds get up, cheer loudly, clap and roar for more! Taylor knows how to entertain! Whether it's performing with R&B greats like Anita Baker, Chaka Khan, Brian McKnight or fronting his own band, Taylor can get you on your feet! His music is sweet, smooth, funky and fun! His enthusiastic playing makes you want to dance, tap your toes, hum the melodies and just plain get into the groove! Now with 4 albums to his credit, this seasoned saxman can take his fans to emotional and melodic places with his ballads, and then add a little magic, passion and moody eloquence. But when he mixes it up with some lush easy grooves and hypnotic rolling bass lines, Taylor has no trouble getting to the heart of the matter which is to keep them wanting more!

NOTABLE LIVE PERFORMANCES

Freemont Experience Cultural Festival
– Las Vegas, NV

Radio City Music Hall – New York, NY

Live in Las Vegas, Anita Baker – Hard
Rock Hotel And Casino, Las Vegas, NV

DTE Energy Music Theatre
– Clarkston, MI

Essence Music Festival
– New Orleans, LO

Court Street Square Community
Concert Series – San Bernardino, CA

Kyoto Grand Hotel and Gardens
– Los Angeles, CA

Humphrey's Backstage Lounge
– San Diego, CA

Nokia Theater – Los Angeles, CA

House of Blues – West Hollywood, CA

The Great Church
– Stockholm, Sweden

Trump Taj Mahal Casino
– Atlantic City, New Jersey

Wolf Trap Performing Arts Center
– Vienna, Virginia

Chumash Casino – San Ynez, CA

Fantasy Springs Casino – Indio, CA

Foxwoods Resort and Casino
– Mashantucket, CT

Mohegan Sun Casino – Uncasville, CT

Mystic Lake Casino – Prior Lake, MN

Hard Rock Hotel And Casino
– Hollywood, FL

MGM Grand Detroit Casino
– Detroit, MN



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MUSIC



Can I Blow for You is the follow up to Rodney Taylor's debut jazz CD **Blow By Blow**. It is a dynamic urban jazz oriented collection featuring nine sizzling and sensual originals and unique covers of three pop classics from the 1980s: Christopher Cross' "Sailing," Phil Collins' "Another Day In Paradise" and Bobby Brown's "My Prerogative." The track "Passion" (whose title fully captures the faith, life experiences and heartfelt emotion the saxman brings to every song) features contemporary jazz greats Jeff Lorber (piano), Alex AI (bass), Greg G Moe Moore (guitar), and Tony Moore (drums). "More so, even than my first project, I wanted this collection to showcase me as a writer and producer as well as a saxophonist," says Taylor, who alternates between soprano and alto and often snazes up tracks with his unique flair for horn texturing. "It's all about feeling good, engaging people, offering up a little romance and even songs that listeners can dance along to. It's a feel good album that I think a lot of pop, R&B and jazz fans can vibe with."

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REVIEWS

"Instrumental artists are rarely clever with their album titles, but saxophonist Rodney Taylor stands out from the indie pack right away by getting in our groove-hungry faces with a question worth pondering: Can I Blow For You? Even after repeated listenings, you're bound to answer "Heck yeah" because Taylor keeps the mood hoppin' from cool and candlelit seduction to explosive funk (featuring dazzling horn textures), switching off between alto and soprano to set just the right tone and mood, bringing classics up to date while creating edgy R&B sounds that bode well for the future of smooth urban jazz." - *Jonathan Widran*

"Recording artist Rodney Taylor is by far one of the most soulful saxophonists to come along in a long time. Smooth Jazz melodies being played seductively and energetically on the Soprano and Alto Saxophones, with R&B Vocal hooks. Rodney plays with a "soulful sweetness" that warms the heart and soothes the soul. A must for all you romantics." - *Melody McCloud*

"This album is another must have to add to your jazz collection. Don't sleep on this jazz artist because we will definitely be hearing more from him." - *Lisa Howard - JazzReview.com*

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