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CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED WRITER/PERFORMER JEFF SOLOMON RELEASES UKULELE-CENTRIC POP RECORD, "AROUND THE SQUARE"

Jeff Solomon, best known from the popular New York sketch comedy group Elephant Larry, has just released his singer/songwriter debut, "Around the Square," and will kick off a promotional tour with a **CD Release Party at the Living Room on August 3rd**. The 6song EP, which showcases Jeff's talents as an ukuleleist/saxophonist/keyboardist, marks the

first major collaboration between Solomon and up-and-coming producer/engineer Andrew Felluss. "Around the Square" was produced independently and has begun to receive distribution offers from respected indie outfits such as ROIR Records (Television, Bad Brains, Bill Laswell).

Early reviews have been strong, with comparisons being drawn to Jonathan Richman, Ben Kweller, and Rufus Wainwright. Radio personality **Jonathan L** called the record "delightful... This Manhattan boy can sure sing. The KCRW's of the world should be all over this." The staff of VH1's Song of the Year gave the single "Temporary Song" a score of 94/100, saying, "The music has a strong appeal that the listener won't be able to get enough of. [The] vocals are soulful and beautiful! The melodies are outstanding." And the NY Press remarked, "Solomon has enough practical musicianship to turn oddities into very successful, brainy-complex pop songs."

Jeff Solomon is already familiar to comedy fans as a writer/actor/musician for the award-winning **Elephant Larry**, whose current show, "BOOM," has sold out every performance for the last three months at the P.I.T. **The New York Times** recently called E.L. "a hilarious multimedia mix of the deadpan and the maniacal," and **NY Metro** and **New York Magazine** both named E.L. the #1 late-night theater pick in April. Elephant Larry's act, which often showcases Solomon's musical efforts, has won acclaim from the mainstream press (**Time Out NY, Back Stage**) and indie critics (**Gothamist, NY Press**) alike, and Solomon is aiming to score a similar success with his first "legit" offering.

Andrew Felluss, who produced, engineered, and mixed "Around the Square," is a protege of renowned producer Phil Ramone who has engineered on high-profile projects including Ray Charles' "Genius Loves Company," Paul Simon, Rod Stewart, and Jay-Z. Andrew is excited to take part in these developments with Jeff, as he has with other emerging talents, such as Ryan O'Neill and Bowery Ballroom rockers Marwood.

Solomon studied classical composition with **recent Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Steven Stucky** at Cornell, where he began to build a following for his engaging ukulele-songwriter shows. He soon found himself opening for well-known indie acts like **Ari Hest**, and in late 2003, Jeff performed two packed headliner gigs at **CB's Gallery**. After a sold-out show at the Good Coffeehouse that November, Jeff took a break to tour with Elephant Larry and record "Around the Square." Jeff assembled a band with **players from Bruce Cockburn's band** and local favorites like the Allison Cipris Band.

"If you put Joe Jackson in a blender with The Jayhawks and Tom Waits from his 'Heart of Saturday Night' era, you might get something like Jeff Solomon. Or you might just get a really gross smoothie. Or life in prison."

CD RELEASE PARTY / PERFORMANCE Jeff Solomon (with band) @ The Living Room Wednesday, August 3rd at 8 PM NO COVER (\$5 sugg.) 154 Ludlow St. F/V to 2nd Ave.

RELEVANT LINKS www.jeffsolomonmusic.com www.elephantlarry.com www.cdbaby.com/jsolomon www.livingroomny.com