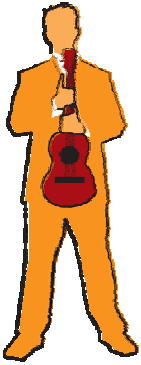


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UKULELE POP ARTIST JEFF SOLOMON MAKES CHICAGO DEBUT AT GUNTHER MURPHY'S ON APRIL 30TH

Jeff Solomon, a New York-based singer/songwriter and comedian best known from the award-winning comedy group **Elephant Larry**, **will soon make his first Chicago appearance at Gunther Murphy's** to promote his debut EP, "Around the Square." The record, which showcases Jeff's talents as an **ukuleleist/saxophonist/keyboardist**, has been selling online since August and is available exclusively at **Reckless Records in Wicker Park**. On the East Coast, "Around the Square" is making its way into stores through **ROIR Records's** distribution arm (**Clap Your Hands Say Yeah**, Menlo Park, **Los Amigos Invisibles**, I-Town Records, Audika Records). ROIR is best known in the indie community for releases by **Television, Bad Brains, MC5 and Bill Laswell**.

Early reviews for Solomon's record have been strong, with comparisons being drawn to Jonathan Richman, Andrew Bird, Elvis Costello and Rufus Wainwright. **Time Out New York** noted that "promising singer/songwriter Solomon has a sensitive touch and an ear for pop ballads." The popular U.K. journal **Drowned In Sound** called the EP "a promising collection of songs that display an impressive amount of weight. **Immediately likable and full of nuances to pick over.**" Radio personality **Jonathan L** said, "**The KCRW's of the world should be all over this.**" The staff of **VH1's Song of the Year Competition** gave the single "**Temporary Song**" a score of **94/100**, saying, "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.**" The online/underground press has been similarly encouraging, with **recommendations from Gothamist, SFist, Seattlest, Largehearted Boy, Carpal Tunnel, Harris Radio and NY's The Deli Magazine.**

Jeff Solomon is already familiar to Chicago comedy fans as a writer/actor for **Elephant Larry**, who have been selling out houses at Chicago's annual Sketchfest for the last 3 years. Elephant Larry will also be making their debut at the Chicago Improv Festival on April 29th. **The Chicago Tribune and Chicagoist** have both recommended EL's performances, and **The New York Times** recently called E.L. "a hilarious multimedia mix of the deadpan and the maniacal." Elephant Larry's act, which often showcases Solomon's musical work within its sketches, 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 **protégé of renowned producer Phil Ramone** who has engineered on 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 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 started his touring career with two packed headliner gigs at **CB's Gallery**. Solomon is now touring with a rotating cast of **players that include members of Bruce Cockburn's band** and other similarly talented acts. His current promotional tour has included a **standing-room-only performance at N.Y.'s Living Room** and is scheduled to continue with appearances at popular N.Y. venues **Pete's Candy Store, Crash Mansion, Mo Pitkin's and the Knitting Factory.**

"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."

PERFORMANCE

Jeff Solomon

@ Gunther Murphy's

Sunday, Apr. 30th at 5:30 PM

1638 W. Belmont

RELEVANT LINKS

www.jeffsolomonmusic.com

www.roir-usa.com

www.myspace.com/ukulelepop

www.elephantlarry.com