

Tom Rust Press Release Nov/Dec 2010

Tom Rust's long awaited follow up to his critically acclaimed CD 'Saints and Singers' is finally here.

'Are we there yet?' is another collaboration with The Malcolm Edmonstone Trio.

The jazz trio features Malcolm Edmonstone on piano, Andrew Bain on drums, Julian Jackson and Alec Dankworth on bass.

This "Radio friendly" recording has a considered vocal approach and intimacy of recording that takes the listener through a thoroughly entertaining journey.

Edmonstone's arrangements give the impression of a big band, with confident vocals from the slightly altered lyrics of the opening track TV Blues, right through to the snappy arrangement of Orange Coloured Sky.

Rust has dedicated this CD to beautiful and precious gifts, his two children.



'Are we there yet?' is available from on-line stores such as iTunes, Napster, eMusic, Amazon. Physical copies are available from Feeler-head Records, CD baby, jazzcds.co.uk, Amazon, CD Connection and CD Universe with more distributors to follow.

'Leave it to the British to wipe the rust off aging American standards. Or, in this case, an Englishman named Tom Rust. Unlike so many of his Stateside contemporaries, Rust refuses to stick to unwritten rules, avoiding paint-by-numbers renditions of songs that have been covered a million times, often in the same fashion.

Rust's version of "That's Amore" virtually ignores the Las Vegas schmaltz of the Dean Martin original that became the blueprint for countless young jazz vocalists, karaoke singers, and overweight wedding crooners. Rust gives it a modicum of swagger and an abundance of calm self-confidence; it's as if James Bond were handed a microphone and was ordered to seduce a girl at a party, his deep British accent heightening the track's ripe sensuality.

Rust opens the album with "TV Blues," a humorous couch-potato lament that establishes his credo of nonconformity. It's doubtful that many jazz singers, especially one who isn't as established yet, would begin their record with such a witty tune. However, Rust isn't afraid of people not taking him seriously. "Just change the channel/I'm a brand new man," he quips, his dry delivery embedded with a wink and a smile. Of course, it helps Rust that his backing band—the Malcolm Edmonstone Trio—is so effortlessly good. The tinkling piano and pumping bass behind Rust on "TV Blues" is the kind of support that elevates an artist from being merely terrific to absolutely swell.

"Saturday Night" and "Ruby Baby" showcase Rust's after-hours croon, and what a wonder it is to hear, a reverberating melancholy baritone. Rust's most emotionally fragile moment arrives on "I Keep Going Back to Joe's," his wounded voice choking back deep-seated longing. If the British are coming, don't be surprised if Rust leads the charge.'

R Sutton - All about Jazz (USA)

'He's actually very good, a far better singer than Jamie Cullum and more individual than the somewhat overrated Michael Buble. Excellent trio too, with Malcolm Edmonstone providing fine piano. I'd certainly buy Rust's records.'

Fred Dellar

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