

MEDIA RELEASE

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Contact: Sheila Thistlethwaite, publicist
sheilagtee@gmail.com
403-261-3836

Calgary jazz pianist, composer and arranger Andréa Petrity celebrates the release of her debut album as a leader, It's About Time, at the National Music Centre, Calgary, Nov. 21, 2014

After years establishing herself as a popular soloist, a welcome player in numerous groups and a first-call accompanist on the Calgary scene, jazz pianist Andréa Petrity has produced a highly satisfying debut album as a leader that proves she has discovered her own expressive voice. Aptly titled It's About Time, the recording will be released with a concert at the National Music Centre, Nov. 21.

Andréa is joined on the CD and at the concert by an impressive set of familiar faces in the local jazz community who have enjoyed a certain amount of prestigious international exposure. They include the saxophonist Pat Belliveau, the drummer Robin Tufts and the bassist Stefano Valdo, who also contributed one of his compositions to the project.

In solo, trio and quartet, the recording showcases Andréa's talents for nuanced compositions and insightful arrangements. She plays with a fluid, strong style through her own tunes, P.M.S. and It's About Time, her arrangement of the Hungarian folk tune, In Love with a Brown Skin Girl, plus Valdo's Unbroken Promises. The song selections are nicely rounded out by three standards we no longer hear very often: Harlem Nocturne, If You Could See Me Now and Every Time We Say Goodbye.

"Andréa's writing exceeded my already high expectations," Belliveau says. "It just flowed. At times challenging in its intricacies, it always made sense melodically."

"She is unique as a pianist; she always goes for the music first and then the piano after," Tufts says. "For the CD we picked the takes that had the most magic. Andréa's tunes move me, and almost play themselves."

"The recording session was pure joy," Valdo says. "The arrangements mirror Andréa's personality; they're golden."

This album follows fairly closely on the heels of the very favourably received MAPL Quintet's "Canadian Songbook" release, on which Andréa was a collaborator and performer.

It's About Time CD Release Concert, Friday, November 21, 7:30 pm, National Music Centre, 134 11 Avenue SE, Calgary, \$15 at the door.

It's About Time, \$15, is available from CDBaby, itunes and affiliates, and the artist's website www.andreapetrity.com