

Drayton Michaels

Drayton Michaels released *Low Stress In The Deep End* in 2005. It garnered underground attention and caused a quiet storm among fans, press and radio. The disc made the Leonard's Lair "top list" and landed at #49 in Upstage Radios top 100. Not bad for a disc without a big money push.

Low Stress In The Deep End was recorded at Electrokitty Recording Studios in Seattle during the Summer/Fall of 2004, the 11 songs on *Low Stress in the Deep End* are culled from 3 years of writing material and playing solo-acoustic shows on the West Coast. Co-produced and engineered by Gary Reynolds, *Low Stress* features tracks mixed by Robbie Adams (U2), Smashing Pumpkins & Spoon) and was mastered by Ron Boustead at Precision Mastering in LA. Drayton enlisted "A list" musicians from the thriving Seattle music scene including Mike Mussberger (Posies) & Keith Lowe (Fiona Apple, David Sylvian). Piano and Rhodes were executed by Wayne Horvitz, a household name to the fans of his many collaborations in the jazz and avant-garde scenes. Up and coming musicians, Cristina Orbe and David Miller (Beehive), also made guest appearances on the CD, helping to round out the vibe of the sound.

Highly influenced by pop, soul and rock music, *Low Stress in the Deep End*, combines elements of all these styles into a focused sound. It has a solid foundation of acoustic guitar and voice complimented by intelligent lyrics of love, friendship and the trials of the human condition. The result is timeless songs with classic elements that truly capture Drayton's love of

songwriting. It's an alternative to the alternatives if you will. The music is catchy and pop, but not slick or pompous. *Low Stress* has been getting spins on over a dozen stations and more are coming in daily. KUMD in Minneapolis raves "You may not know his name now, but you will..." UK Music Search proclaims the album "bristles with a sense of immediateness and unbelievable catchiness that's breathtaking". Leonard's Lair suggests "this is an intelligent and infectious record that is strong enough to reach out to both adult rock and alternative fans alike." Atomicduster says "Listeners will certainly be inclined to devour its content readily and return to the table in an effort to have their fill".

To those privy to the music of Drayton Michaels, it's no surprise that he came out of the gate with such a powerful record. Having played music his entire life (professionally since the age of 12), Drayton had a running start that led him to the Musicians Institute in Los Angeles where he studied with jazz legends Joe Pass and Joe Diorio. While attending the Institute, he took in extra study time with bass and vocal luminary Tim Bogart. Voice instructors Mark Baxter, Roger Love and Jim Dawson also mentoring along the way. Drayton's travels (which include Boston, Los Angeles, Seattle, Germany, Amsterdam) and musical experience has broadened his approach to songwriting and the creative process. He has played in a dizzying array of musical formats and

...biography

styles, hung out with a crazy cast of characters from all walks of life – some known, some unknown, all infamous in their own right. The common denominator in all of Drayton's musical ventures has been solid songwriting and the pursuit of originality. Be it as a side player or front man, Drayton's goal is to create something truly identifiable – pushing creative boundaries far beyond their originally assumed limits – yet his classic songwriting still feels familiar. Drayton calls it "future classic".

In the Summer of 2005, Drayton relocated back to his east coast roots in the NYC/NJ area where he has begun recording his next album and building a live band.

Drayton is currently working with producer Chris Young, who has made a name for himself remixing Madonna, Gwen Stefani and New Order. You can get a sneak preview of what they're up to at myspace.com/draytonmichaels – where you can listen to the first track they've done titled, *Even If You Hate Me*. This track will appear on Drayton's upcoming album, *The Power of Gentle Aggression*, due out in 2006.

Visit www.draytonmichaels.com for the latest news and upcoming live shows.

Bio written by freelance publicist Frederica Savage



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Low Stress In The Deep End is available now at CDBaby.com