

## **JASON PLUMB AND THE WILLING BIO/HISTORY:**

Jason Plumb is an exception in the world of contemporary pop music where "extended careers" and "timeless bodies of work" are not commonplace.

An artist of considerable depth, the Saskatchewan-based singer and songwriter, has over the course of the past twenty years delivered a impressive body of work that continues to present fresh and exciting chapters.

From hit singles and memorable album tracks with the Waltons, to solo albums, soundtracks and theme songs, Plumb has consistently created music that has been embraced by Canadian audiences and acclaimed by the industry and his peers.

A man for all seasons, Plumb is a pop maestro, artistic perfectionist, and a creative force in a recording studio. An engaging front man in a concert, he is also a gifted vocalist who keeps audiences spellbound with soulful performances. In short, Plumb's music is as accessible as it is unique and immediately identifiable, and those traits continue to be cornerstones in his career and on his recordings.

His journey has set this artist in a place, where today he is at the top of his game, and experiencing the best of all possible worlds when it comes to making music.

"I consider myself lucky for a number of reasons," muses Plumb from his home base in Regina, Saskatchewan, where he recorded the soon-to-be released live concert DVD, *Alive & Willing* (2011, SoccerMom Records/Warner Music Canada). The concert captures a set of songs, taken mostly from his 2007 recording 'Beauty in this World', an album full of lush string arrangements and soaring pop melodies. Thanks to the participation of the Broken Heart Strings, members of the Regina Symphony Orchestra, the studio sound was fully realized on stage. It's a recording that also puts a focus on Plumb as a leader of an exceptionally tight and talented band, appropriately dubbed, The Willing.

Jason Plumb & The Willing will step in front of the entire Regina Symphony Orchestra on January 8, 2011, at Regina's Conexus Arts Centre, as part of the RSO's Shumiatcher Pops Concert Series.

"That I've been able to survive this long is something I don't take for granted and I realize that it has been my composing that has allowed me to stay in music. That's what I am perceived as," says the artist who in the space of week can turn his focus from a soundtrack for a film, or writing a tune for a television series, to hunkering down with his band The Willing.

"I stopped gauging success by album sales a long time ago, because of all the types of projects that keep me engaged and challenged. But I do like to perform

and that's where I live to be, this band is gung ho to get in front of live audiences," says the man who has brilliantly combined what he sees as an "early found love for simple country music" with his "love for British pop music."

For Plumb it is not a stretch to go from listening to a classic Steve Earle disc to a turning up the volume on a XTC album. Those influences can be found in varying degrees on recent works that he has recorded in his home province, including the 2009 release, a sort-of tribute to his home province, *Wide Open Music: Songs For Saskatchewan* (SoccerMom Records/Warner Music Canada).

Commissioned by the Saskatchewan Roughriders to write a theme song for the beloved Canadian football team, Plumb presented Regina with the perfectly titled "Paint The Whole World Green". The song has become an anthem in the community, and when "Paint The World Green" produced an accompanying video, the tune attracted over 200,000 viewers on YouTube.

The song spawned Plumb appearances on national television, including a coveted spot on CTV's Canada AM. As momentum built, Saskatchewan Tourism also entered the picture, requesting a song promoting the province. Before long the idea of producing a thematic album of songs about Saskatchewan presented itself to Plumb.

Plumb calls the album "my first compilation of sorts". The album features the commissioned pieces, new tunes, and some of his best work from his days fronting Juno Award-winning Waltons.

"I've been writing about this province for a long time. Because I didn't own any of the Waltons back catalogue we re-cut, re-invented and re-discovered some of that material," says the singer-songwriter, who has a great ace up his sleeve, that being his powerhouse voice.

"My instrument has matured, and I've always strived to get better as a singer," states Plumb who can have complete command of an audience with only his voice, guitar and songs.

Most recently, Plumb was invited to participate in CBC Radio 2's songwriting project, CBC Song Quest: Great Canadian Road Song. The assignment saw Jason composing yet another song inspired by a stretch of road in Saskatchewan, chosen by the national radio station's listeners. The song, Red Coat Trail, was recently performed and recorded at CBC's Glen Gould Studio, in Toronto, for national broadcast and is available at iTunes.

Plumb sees a group of musicians who have all the artistic variables in place to build upon the loyal grassroots following that has made Jason Plumb one of the most credible Canadian artists, prairie variety or otherwise, of the last two decades.

“One of Canada’s best singer/songwriters”  
Jian Ghomeshi (Host, CBC Radio’s ‘Q’)

"Songwriter Jason Plumb is not only one of Canada's best tunesmiths, but possibly one of the World's".  
Q (British music magazine)

### **Instrumentation**

Jason Plumb - Lead Voice, Acoustic Guitars, Piano  
Gord Smith - Bass, Guitars, Voice  
Cody Gamracy - Lead Guitar, Voice  
Dan Silljer - Lead Guitar, Voice  
Jeff McLeod - Piano, Rhodes, Hammond Organ, Bass, Voice  
Mike Thompson - Drums, Voice

### **Discography**

The Waltons "89 Demonstrations" indie 1989  
The Waltons "Lik My Trakter" Warner Music 1992  
The Waltons "Simple Brain" EP Warner Music 1994  
The Waltons "Cocks Crow" Warner Music 1995  
The Waltons "Empire Hotel" Warner Music 1998  
The Waltons "Liv" MapleMusic Recordings 2001  
Jason Plumb "Under and Over" MapleMusic 2004  
Jason Plumb and The Willing "Beauty In This World" SoccerMom Records/Warner Music Canada (2007)  
Jason Plumb and The Willing "Wide Open Music: Songs for Saskatchewan" SoccerMom Records/Warner Music Canada (2009)  
Jason Plumb and The Willing "Alive & Willing" SoccerMom Records/Warner Music Canada (2011)

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