

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Lesley Mitchell-Clarke – LMC Media  
[416-486-6742/lmcmedia@sympatico.ca](mailto:416-486-6742/lmcmedia@sympatico.ca)

University of Toronto Jazz Orchestra  
“UTJO”  
and Friends of University of Toronto Jazz  
([www.uofjazz.ca](http://www.uofjazz.ca))

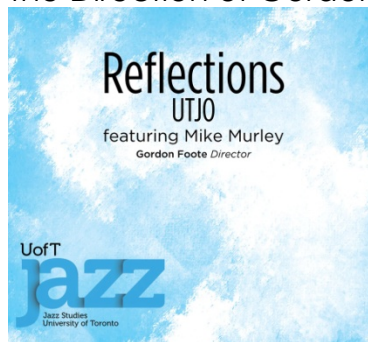


Launch their new, independent CD

# Reflections

**Featuring Mike Murley**

The University of Toronto Jazz Orchestra  
Under the Direction of Gordon Foote



and in celebration of their new recording,  
announce a special CD Launch Event and Media Reception at  
The University of Toronto's

**Walter Hall**

**Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> 2013 – 7:30 PM**

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**TORONTO – September 25, 2013** – On Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 PM, The University of Toronto – Faculty of Music – Department of Jazz Studies is releasing their debut CD at the University's venerable Walter Hall through their new recording Label entity, University of Toronto Friends of Jazz, featuring The University of Toronto Jazz Orchestra (UTJO) entitled *Reflections – Featuring Mike Murley*. The ambitious recording features original compositions by Mike Murley with Murley as featured saxophone soloist as well as thrilling arrangements by University of Toronto Jazz Faculty members Murley, trombonist Terry Promane and trumpet player John MacLeod – with Murley and Promane serving as producers. With the project and Jazz Orchestra under the direction eminent jazz educator Gordon Foote, this CD is a terrific kick-off for more student-driven recording and performance projects. *Reflections* is landmark achievement, and is performed to perfection by the enthusiastic and gifted members of the UTJO – which include Matthew Woroshyl, Hojin Jang, Landen Vieira, Bryan Qu, Francis Smith, Elliot Fardad, Parker Weiss, Morgan Gardner, Devin Hoare, Brad Eaton, Michael Brooker, Eric Porter, Modibo Keita, Jared Kirsh, Malcolm Conner, Matthew MacDonald, Ben Hognestad, Tim Lemke, Natalie Worden, Hannah Teminsky and Angela Turone.

[More.....](#)

**Walter Hall is located at on the campus of The University of Toronto in the Edward Johnson Building at 80 Queens Park. Performance begins at 7:30 PM, and admission is free. There will be a Media and Artist Reception immediately following the concert. For further information, please log on to [www.uofijazz.ca](http://www.uofijazz.ca).**

### **About REFLECTIONS Featuring Mike Murley...**

According to UTJO Director, Gordon Foote, "This recording - which is 100% Canadian - is the combination of many forces...great student talent, positive energy, faculty enthusiasm, external financial assistance - plus passion and commitment on the part of all involved." All of the compositions on *REFLECTIONS* were, in fact, written by Mike Murley, and having his work realized with this dynamic recording is something very important to Mike. "It was a thrill to have had my music recorded by this exceptional group of students from the University of Toronto", says Murley. "Many will be mainstays on the jazz scene for years to come and you heard them here first!"

Every tune on *REFLECTIONS* is an evocative musical experience. Murley is a mature composer who deftly utilizes all of the sonic colours and landscapes that are available to him - as a musician, as a writer and as an arranger. First up is the hard swinging "Sonny's Way", followed by "Santiago Reflections" (arr. by Murley) on which a languid and haunting intro segues into a passionate four-de-force for the entire ensemble. The third track is the rhythmic and harmonically intriguing "Still 'Rollin'" (arr. by Murley) followed by "Minas Mist", a portrait of Murley's native Bay of Fundy region in Nova Scotia (replete with "Gull" sounds and a gorgeous vocal by Angela Turone), and also arranged by Mike Murley. The gifted trumpet player and composer/arranger John MacLeod has contributed a stunning arrangement of the fifth track on the CD, "Greville Bay". Certainly one of the most moving tracks is "Rob" - a soulful and swinging tribute to the late, great Rob McConnell and arranged by Mike Murley and last (but certainly not the least!) is the vibrant, musical treat, "Can't You See", arranged by skilled jazz trombonist/arranger/bandleader and jazz educator, Terry Promane.

The supporters of education, arts, music, jazz - and specifically the supporters of the Jazz Department at The University of Toronto are invaluable - and it is hoped that this excellent recording will stimulate even more interest in the extensive U. of T. jazz programme. Dean of the The University of Toronto Faculty of Music, Don McLean, Professor Gordon Foote, Terry Promane, Mike Murley, Chase Sanborn and Jim Lewis are dedicated to the perpetuation of our only original North American art form - jazz, and will continue bringing jazz and jazz education into the Canadian landscape through their work at The University of Toronto Jazz Department. The release of *REFLECTIONS Featuring Mike Murley* is the first of many such projects, and as Gordon Foote has said, "we are always looking for people to support University of Toronto Jazz and our students in the form of scholarships, travel, outreach and recording projects."

**The University of Toronto Faculty of Music - Jazz Department  
and**

**The University of Toronto JAZZ ORCHESTRA and Friends of University of Toronto Jazz  
wishes to thank Executive Producer,**

**Terry Sheard**

**without whose generosity and dedication to jazz education and performance**

**This recording would not have been possible**

### **About Mike Murley....**

An engaging, lyrical saxophonist, Mike Murley is one of Canada's finest jazz talents and one of the most versatile players on the scene today. Currently active as a leader in various formations from duo to septet, Murley also maintains a busy schedule as a sideman and jazz educator (University of Toronto). He has played on eleven Juno Award-winning recordings since 1991, with the most

recent in 2013 for his trio recording **Test of Time** (Cornerstone Records). Murley was also honoured to have been named "Saxophonist of the Year" eight times by the Jazz Report Awards/National Jazz Awards.

Since moving to Toronto from his native Nova Scotia in 1981, Murley has enjoyed a career that has spanned a wide stylistic spectrum. Recordings with veteran Canadian artists such as Ed Bickert, Guido Basso and the late Rob McConnell showcase the saxophonist's talents in the mainstream standard repertoire. On the more contemporary side, Murley has collaborated frequently with the younger generation of improviser/composers including pianist David Braid and guitarist David Occhipinti. He is also well known for his work with the multi-Juno Award-winning electric jazz group Metalwood, which released six critically acclaimed albums between 1997 and 2003. In addition, he has recorded and performed with numerous other Canadian and international artists including Kenny Wheeler, John Scofield, David Liebman and Paul Bley.

Murley's latest Juno Award-winning release, **Test of Time**, features his trio with legendary guitarist Ed Bickert and bassist Steve Wallace. Recorded in 1999, this recently re-discovered recording is certainly made significant by the fact that it represents a new release featuring Bickert (who retired from playing professionally in 2001). As a leader Murley also received JUNO Awards for two other recordings as a leader: **Two Sides** in 1991(Unity Records) and in 2002, **Live at the Senator** (Cornerstone).

Murley's debut recording for his septet, **Still Rollin'** (Cornerstone), was nominated for a 2012 Juno and features the saxophonist's compositions and arrangements performed by some of Canada's finest jazz improvisers. His critically acclaimed 2006 recording, **The Melody Lingers On** (CBC Records), finds the saxophonist's trio live in concert at the Glenn Gould Studio with a twelve-piece string ensemble conducted by Rick Wilkins. Also featured on the recording are Guido Basso (flugelhorn) and Tara Davidson (saxophones) with string arrangements by Murley and guitarist Reg Schwager.

In August 2011 Murley accepted a full-time lecturer position at the [University of Toronto Faculty of Music](#). He has also taught at York University (where he served as jazz area coordinator from 2008-11), Humber College and has also been a visiting member of the faculty at The Banff Centre for the Arts.



**Mike Murley**  
**Featured Artist, Composer, Arranger, Producer**

### **About Gordon Foote.....**

Gordon Foote recently accepted a position at the University of Toronto as Professor in the Jazz Studies Program of the Faculty of Music. The most important elements of this portfolio will be to direct the University of Toronto Jazz Orchestra (UTJO). Previous to that, Gordon spent twenty-six years as an Associate Professor in the Jazz Studies Program at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University, in

Montreal, Quebec. He served as Dean (interim), Associate Dean (Academic and Student Affairs), Chair of the Department of Performance, Director of Graduate Studies and Chair of the Jazz Area, as well as six years as a professor at St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia. Gordon is one of the pioneers of jazz education in Canada, being instrumental in the development and implementation of the first undergraduate and graduate university jazz studies programs in the country. Professor Foote was the coordinator of the McGill Jazz Orchestras, and directed McGill Jazz Orchestra I. Under his direction, the ensemble performed throughout the United States and Canada, France, Switzerland, England, Ireland and Mexico. The ensemble has released nine recordings. As a saxophonist and clinician for Conn-Selmer, Gordon has performed in Canada, Europe and the United States. He has also served as the Quebec representative to the IAJE, the Director of Education for IAJE Canada and as President of Jazz Canada. His studies at the University of Minnesota and the University of North Texas combined with 38 years of performing and teaching experience, leave him as probably the most respected and requested adjudicator, conductor, clinician and jazz educator/performer in Canada.



**Director of The University of Toronto Jazz Orchestra  
Gordon Foote**

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**UTJO's REFLECTIONS Featuring Mike Murley**  
is available through iTunes and Amazon.com and through other fine music retailers



**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**  
FACULTY OF MUSIC

**Executive Producer of *REFLECTIONS Featuring Mike Murley*: Terry Sheard**

**Produced by: Mike Murley, Gordon Foote and Terry Promane**

**All Compositions by Mike Murley (SOCAN)**

**Arrangements by Mike Murley, Terry Promane, Jeff Deegan and John MacLeod**

**UTJO Directed by: Gordon Foote**

***REFLECTIONS Featuring Mike Murley* was recorded on April 8 and 9, 2013 at Revolution Recording Studios in Toronto, Ontario – Canada**

**Engineered by John Bartel**

**Mastered by George Seara at George Seara Sound – Toronto**

**Photo Art by Craig Gardner**

**Photo of Mike Murley by Stephen Ferry**

**For Further information, photo art,  
a review/airplay copy of**

***REFLECTIONS Featuring Mike Murley***

**or**

**to arrange a media opportunity with**

**Mike Murley or Gordon Foote**

**Please contact LMC Media**

**By phone at 416-486-6742 – or by e-mail at [lmcmmedia@sympatico.ca](mailto:lmcmmedia@sympatico.ca)**