

# Mike Field

PRESS KIT



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# MikeField

"BRIGHT, ENERGETIC, ... FUN TO LISTEN TO" -THE EXAMINER

TORONTO JAZZ- "A STELLAR RECORDING ... VERY CREATIVE"

"A MASTERFUL WORK. RUSH MODE IS A SWINGIN' HOTSPOT ..." -SOCAN WORDS AND MUSIC

Since the release of his first album *Ashes* in 2011, brilliant jazz man Mike Field has been on the move gigging from one big city to the next - travelling as far afield as Germany, France and even on board a ship to Antarctica - but mainly shuttling between Los Angeles and Toronto, all the while composing a continuous stream of new material. Now with dates at the Rex and the Nelson Jazz Festival in New Zealand, Field continues the whirlwind of activity with his latest CD *RUSH MODE* - an eclectic collection of jazz tunes ranging from classic bebop to Latin-flavoured romps. The through line is as the title suggests, a portrait of the way we live our busy lives, though Field's take is definitely more on the positive side.

As with his last album, Field likes to keep it upbeat on *Rush Mode*. The band does it all here and they do it all really well. The songs are driven mainly by Field's playful, virtuoso trumpet and the superb artistry of saxman Paul Metcalfe: the pair play on these recordings as if they're "brothers from another mother." The short, snappy, bouncy tunes keep the sense of excitement and energy throughout, save for the hauntingly beautiful ballad "The Last of the Summer Days" featuring the exquisite, smoky vocals of musical guest Sophia Perlman.

Among the highlights are the title track, where sprightly flamenco flourishes (by special guest Kevin Laliberté on guitar), meet classic bop horns; "Play for You," a vintage, dirty-thirties-style tune, grounded by a tango beat with seamlessly interwoven play between Metcalfe's sax and Field's alternately growling and soaring trumpet; and the aptly-named "Balkan Swing", an Eastern European snake-charmer that features florid piano riffs and showcases Field's penchant for world music rhythms and melodies.

In addition to Field and Metcalfe, the Mike Field Jazz Quintet includes exceptional players Carlie Howell on upright bass, Dave Chan on drums, Teri Parker on piano with special guest musicians Rosendo "Chendy" León on percussion and Mark Eisenman on Fender rhodes and piano.

Produced by Shelly Berger, the nine-track album was recorded at Canterbury Music Company in Toronto between June 2012 and May 2013, engineered by Jeremy Darby and mixed by Andrew Mullin.



FOR PRESS PHOTOS, LATEST RELEASES OR COPIES OF THE ALBUM  
EMAIL [MAYA@MIKEFIELDJAZZ.COM](mailto:MAYA@MIKEFIELDJAZZ.COM) OR VISIT [WWW.MIKEFIELDJAZZ.COM](http://WWW.MIKEFIELDJAZZ.COM)

MikeFieldRushMode



# MikeField

## BIOGRAPHY



Born and raised in Canada, jazz trumpeter and composer Mike Field is known for his bright, upbeat and energetic music. His latest album, *Rush Mode*, was nominated for two Independent Music Awards (IMAs) in 2014, including Best Jazz Instrumental Song and Best Jazz Song with Vocals.

Mike writes his music either when he's traveling or when he's ensconced in Toronto's urban lifestyle. His melodies are dynamic and exciting and since learning languages and traveling to all corners of the world has always been a part of Mike's life, the titles of his songs often reflect movement and cultures - such as *Missing in Paris*, *Streets of Santa Monica* or the Latin-flavoured tune, *El sótano*. He performs his music with local musicians at jazz festivals, societies and clubs in New Zealand, Europe, North America and Antarctica.

Mike began playing the trumpet at the age of 10 and studied privately with classical performers in the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. In 2001, he entered the Masters of Jazz Performance program at New York University and began composing upon returning to Toronto in 2003. By 2007, he was performing with several local jazz, reggae, funk and experimental bands, finally forming his own jazz quintet in 2009. He released his debut solo album, *Ashes*, in 2011 and *Rush Mode* two years later, along with his first professional video for the title track.



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## PRESS PHOTOS

CREDIT: DAVID WALDMAN (TOP & BOTTOM)

CREDIT: MAYA DORNIG (MIDDLE)





# MikeField

## LIVE PHOTOS

JAZZ AT OSCAR'S, TORONTO (TOP)  
LIGHTHOUSE CAFE, LOS ANGELES (MIDDLE)  
COTTON CLUB, LEIPZIG (BOTTOM)





# Mike Field

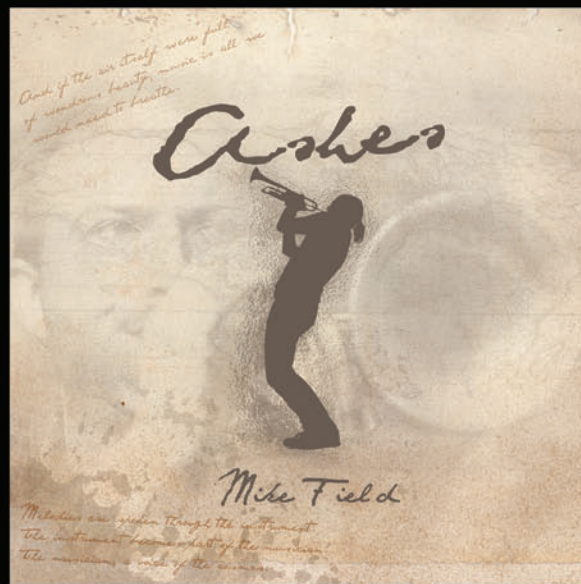
ALBUM COVERS



**RUSH MODE**  
RELEASED OCT 6, 2013



**ASHES**  
RELEASED AUG 5, 2011





# MikeField

PAST SHOW POSTER

## Mike Field Jazz Quintet



TRUMPET **Mike Field**  
SAX **Paul Metcalfe**  
BASS **Carlie Howell**  
DRUMS **Dave Chan**  
PIANO **Ali Berkok**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2013**

**9:30PM-MIDNIGHT \$7 AT THE DOOR**

**THE REX HOTEL**

(194 QUEEN STREET WEST, TORONTO)

Album available on iTunes, CDBaby and Amazon.com

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# Field's jazz on foggy Sunday night lifts Toronto's spirits



Christina Strynatka



Christina Strynatka  
Toronto Performing Arts Examiner

Mike Field

Rating:

October 6, 2013

The beauty of **The Rex** is that it's very cleverly advertised, but not in the way of overt messaging. Rather, its allure lies in the cracked open window that aurally seduces passers-by with its whispers of jazzy music built upon years of promise. And once you resigned yourself to another temptation, you would have been treated to ochre-painted walls and a chandelier giving the stage a warm glow.

The only thing missing were the ashtrays and smoky air, rendered obsolete by law.

On Oct. 6, 2013, trumpeter **Mike Field** was the latest fare to taste, giving jazz fans a wide open look at his latest CD, *Rush Mode*. Dressed in an open white shirt, single-breasted black jacket and slim fit pinstriped slacks, Field had the crowd eating out of his hand. It was evident that most of the crowd hadn't just wandered in off the street that night, with the place so filled you could only find a seat or two if you didn't mind being separated from your pack.

The musicians that night were **Paul Metcalfe**—saxophone ("Is this guy a saxophone ninja?" asked Field); **Teri Parker**—piano; **David Chan**—drums; and **Carlie Howell**—**upright bass**. Each of them had multiple solos, playing more than capably, but Howe stole the supporting night with a grin of acknowledgment after one particularly good turn.



Field's music selection was so varied and interesting, it was nigh impossible to remember one song as standing above another. "Attic Jump", a peppy tune, featured Field playing his trumpet bright and snappily the way a good jazz trumpet should sound. It's easy to lose yourself in jazz and forget how inherently difficult playing it can actually be, and a good musician keeps it that way for the entire song. When Field and Metcalfe worked together in combination, each snapping out individual notes that together created a seamless melody, Field had reached his mark.

"Play for You" was introduced by Field as "if punk music had existed in the 1920s, this is what I think it would have sounded like", and he was right. The song displayed elements of brashness, daring and a no-care attitude, hitting its apex when Field put a mute on the bell of his trumpet and growled out the notes.

It can't really be called a low note but in comparison to the rest of the music that night, but "Tu vuo' fa l'americano" ("You Want to be American") from the soundtrack of *The Talented Mr. Ripley*, was a song that didn't quite sing as highly as the rest of the repertoire. It was performed ably, but not superbly. Field switched to guitar for that one, showing off his well-rounded playing abilities, but the other instruments overpowered his voice.

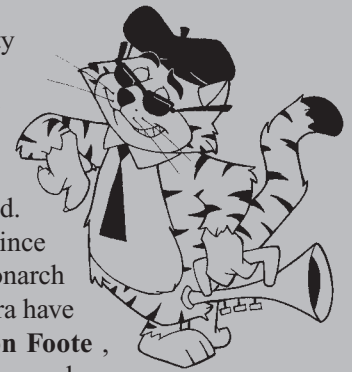
Where too many—and even one is too many—performers don't interact with the audience on account of letting their music speak for itself, Field was comfortable and at ease with the packed room. "The goal is, I want everyone to go home with a CD," he told them. "That may come as a surprise to you." But he's the rare breed of musician that just wants people to listen to his music, so much so that he changed the price of his CD from \$15 to a suggested price of \$15. Would Beyonce have ever done that?

If you were one of the lucky ones at The Rex on that foggy Sunday night in Toronto, you would have been in a venue filled with music that bright, energetic, and just plain fun to listen to.



**Publisher's View**

Well as you can see in this issue quite a few things are coming up and much has been happening. First we had the stellar recording of trumpeter, **Mike Field** entitled *RUSH MODE*, not to forget his tasty accompanying musicians. I have always found Mike full of enthusiasm for his playing, he is very creative. All tracks on this new CD. were composed and arranged by him, and his artistic imagination certainly come through. Full marks for originality, with a variety of tempos that you can appreciate without getting lost. Then we had yet another top-notch recording by the acclaimed Latin band Manteca , their 11<sup>th</sup> CD. this one named *MONDAY NIGHT AT THE MENSA DISCO*. For all you Latin jazz fans you won't be disappointed. This band was originally formed in 1979 by percussionist , **Matt Zimbel** and bassist, **Henry Heilig**. Since those early days they have performed across the U.S.A , Canada, and Europe . Look for **Manteca** at The Monarch Tavern , November 10<sup>th</sup>. While on the subject of first-class bands the University of Toronto Jazz Orchestra have just released their new CD. *REFLECTIONS* featuring veteran saxophonist, **Mike Murley** and **Gordon Foote** , Director. This recording has a variety of fine original arrangements , delightful ballads and up-tempo numbers. Something to please everyone, with the tunes being played by 21 practiced musicians, plus of course their tutors, **Mike Murley** and **Gordon Foote**. Next up a new recording *57 MINUTES* by captivating vocalist, **Laura Marks** to be released on November 12<sup>th</sup> at The Jazz Bistro. Laura has been on the jazz scene for numerous years performing in Toronto's major clubs, she never fails to get a decent review. Mark this one on your calendar . Finally a live recording to be made at Hugh's Room on November 25<sup>th</sup> this is by a band named *The Octokats* led by saxophonist, **Sarang Kulkarni**. They will be playing West Coast style of Jazz , very smooth , my kind of jazz. Just look at some of the renowned musicians in this band ( in advertisement) one night not to miss.



As you will also notice in their advert the beautiful Rose Theatre in Brampton have superb line-up coming in, worth the trip out of town. On the subject of advertisers , once more I would like to express my gratitude to those fine musicians, establishments, theatres



**Late Press**

Left, Toronto Jazz Publisher, Dave Milbourne congratulates, Gordon Foote Director of the University of Toronto Jazz Orchestra, centre Leslie Mitchell-Clarke Director of LMC Media. This auspicious occasion was to celebrate the launch of the UTJO's new CD *REFLECTIONS* featuring veteran saxophonist, Mike Murley.

and clubs who support this free non-profit publication with their adverts. They maybe few but are very special. I can assure you by the emails and calls I get, *you have been noticed*, thanks again. As this is the last issue for this year I would like to express thanks to photographer, **Barry Thomson**. Barry is always on the run in and out of the city, also to the U.S.A he is a true professional. By the way check out Barry's Renowned Artists page on [www.torontojazz.ca](http://www.torontojazz.ca) recently updated with more exceptional photos. Also thanks to the good people at E-impressions who do my lay-out and printing, never let me down, and always punctual; first- class establishment. To editor , **Rick Nixon** always there when you need him and to **Gert Wieland** of Just Core Business who keeps our website running smoothly.

As always a special thanks to **Stephen McGrath**, Media Relations Manager . **Roy Thomson & Massey Hall**, and, **Barbora Kršek** Concert Publicity Manager and Publications Editor , **Koerner Hall**. Both, **Barry Thomson** and myself wish to recognize them for their proficient attention to our media requests. It is important, because we both have busy schedules, so it's always appreciated when we get a prompt response.

Best of Health , Best of Bebop.  
**Dave Milbourne.**

Front and back Page Photos by Barry Thomson

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[www.torontojazz.ca](http://www.torontojazz.ca)

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# theWholeNote (/)

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FELIX DEAK, BAROQUE CELLIST AND VIOLA DA GAMBIST



## MIKE FIELD, JAZZ TRUMPETER AND COMPOSER (/index.php/directories/on-the-road-2013/24293- mike-field-jazz-trumpeter-and-composer) ⚙️

Written by The WholeNote Staff

Published on 07 June 2013

Category: [On The Road \(/index.php/directories/on-the-road-2013\)](#)



*(/images/stories/1809-june2013/otr-2013/mike\_field.jpg)* Toronto-based trumpeter and composer Mike Field has the capacity for vision much like a phoenix scanning the landscape and collecting sensory information, creating with intense excitement and deathless inspiration. His latest collection of nine instrumental tracks, called *ASHES*, delivers a deep and penetrating array of textures and sounds.

*Field can be frequently heard playing with various bands at local concert venues such as The Legendary Horseshoe Tavern, The El Mocambo and The Rex. He has toured Canada three times (with rock/funk band Jay Spectre), and has played the Beaches Jazz Festival in Toronto and in New Zealand (where his trumpet can be heard in the experimental bossa-nova collective The Inverts). He is also in the well-known reggae collective High Plains Drifter, playing numerous local Bob Marley and Peter Tosh tribute shows.*



*1. What are we interrupting (i.e. what music-related activity are we taking you away from to write this)?*

Today (Friday, May 24), we're preparing for our third Vietnamese jazz concert, which takes place tomorrow night. Last year we were invited to be "the young local jazz band" to join Don Thompson and some Vietnamese singers in a concert of Vietnamese jazz songs and original local jazz music. It went so well, we're now on our third concert and are now the headlining band. The crowds have grown to about 200 people and it's been really amazing learning so much about their culture through music. I've even been fortunate enough to have translated a famous song of theirs and arranged a couple more for jazz quintet. Also, sharing the stage with Don Thompson and Diana Panton has been really nice too.

*2. What, if anything, are you most looking forward to as an audience member between now and September 7?*

Can't wait to see Dr. John this summer at the jazz festival.

*3. How about as a music maker/player?*

I'll be performing at the Lighthouse Café in Los Angeles this July. It's the second time I'll be taking the stage there to perform my original music, and really amazing to play where Chet Baker and so many other famous musicians have performed. I hire a local band – all players who are crazy talented and pick up my tunes so quickly and play them so well.

*4. What are you already preparing for musically beyond the summer? And (how) do your summer plans tie in with these longer term plans?*

We're releasing our second album of jazz originals this fall. It's been 12 months in the making, we've gone a lot further since our first one and it's been really exciting to add flamenco guitar and vocals to our traditional jazz quintet sound. This summer, I'll be finishing up the mixing, mastering and printing, and beginning the promo campaign.

*VIDEO*