

Pete Woods

www.petewoods.ca

Pete Woods is a minister with the United Church of Canada, spiritually informed by the improvisational quality of music, especially in the jazz idiom. As a saxophonist, he is a professional musician with recording credits in jazz, blues and rock'n'roll.

Pete has years of performance experience in both sacred and secular settings: classic rock and blues bands, jazz ensembles, choirs and organists, and numerous jazz guitarists and pianists. The conversational quality of duos and trios is where he thrives—intimacy, humour and authenticity are hallmarks of his sound.

Woods has toured shows of jazz hymn and gospel variations from Halifax to Victoria, north to James Bay and south to El Salvador. He is a sought-after musician at both church- and jazz- based events across Canada. With a love of melody and phrasing at the heart of his musical offerings, Pete's shows both inspire and delight.

His piano/sax duo with the legendary jazz pianist Brian Browne has become a major focus of his recent work, with the release of their second CD, Honest Company. Woods provides lyrical interpretations against the lush harmonic backdrops created by Browne. From the Beatles "Long and Winding Road" to Dvorak's version of "Goin Home", Woods and Browne draw listeners into a place of warmth and beauty, with a gentle ear for innovation along the way. The duo is in demand for concerts regionally and nationally.

Woods has toured shows of jazz hymn variations and gospel songs with Vancouver-based Peter Dent and Marcus Mosely of The Sojourners. He has performed at Festivals across Ontario, opened for international acts such as Five Man Electrical Band, and has played every bar in his hometown of Smiths Falls, Ontario.

"... a rare combination of tradition and contemporary idiom.... with wonderful rhythmic sense and spiritual sensitivity."

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