

Ron Esposito

With an extensive background in the music business and public radio, Ron Esposito is first and foremost a musician with over thirty years experience playing, producing and recording. After thirteen years and four CDs with Greg Schaber & High Street as well as twenty-five years on WVXU-FM and WAIF-FM in Cincinnati, Ron's lifelong interest in spirituality, metaphysics, philosophy and personal transformation led him down a new musical path – composing, arranging and performing on the Tibetan Brass and Crystal Singing Bowls. “Open Heart” (Spiral Music, 2009), his debut solo project, was heard on the nationally syndicated NPR radio program Echoes and received a national Telly Award for its video. His second solo CD, “We Are One” (Spiral Music, 2011), takes the listener on an expansive listening adventure that's contemplative, thoughtful and profoundly multifaceted. Ron's latest recording, “Soul Burst” (Spiral Music, 2013) features an eclectic group of highly respected musicians from jazz, classical, world and Indian music traditions.

Ron's career in the music industry began in the late 1960's at Ohio University, where he was chairman of the university concert committee, booking Led Zeppelin, The Who and James Taylor amongst others. Upon graduation, he moved to Boston in 1972 and was assistant manager at the city's premier jazz club, The Jazz Workshop. In the mid-1970's, it was on to New York City to work as a road manager for CTI Records, touring with Airta, Deodato and the CTI Jazz All-Stars.

He earned his M.A. in Broadcast Management from Ohio University in 1980 and spent a year back in the New York area doing radio promotion for the jazz label, PM Records. Ron owned Haffa's Records in Athens, Ohio for five years before moving to Cincinnati in 1986 to become music director, program host and, eventually, Special Projects Producer at WVXU-FM (NPR). In addition to producing and hosting three music programs and two talk shows, he produced three compilation CDs featuring Cincinnati jazz artists and was producer for the nationally syndicated Riders in the Sky “Riders Radio Theater” show and the Windham Hill “Winter Solstice Concerts.” From 2005 – 2010 he hosted a New Age music show on WAIF-FM.

Ron's debut recording project playing the Tibetan and Crystal Singing Bowls, “Lifting the Veil: Enneagram Meditations” (2008), features spoken word meditations by Ron and Deborah Ooten with Billy Larkin, keyboards and Ric Hordinski, guitar.

For his debut solo CD, “Open Heart” (Spiral Music, 2009), Ron assembled a group of renowned musical artists from genres that span both ancient and modern cultures. The result is an inspired sound experience praised by critics as “elegant” and “joyful”. “Open Heart” was added to the “Echoes” playlist, the nationally syndicated NPR music program hosted by John Diliberto and the “Open Heart” video received the 2010 Bronze Telly Award for “Best Online Video”.

Esposito's second solo CD, “We Are One” (Spiral Music, 2011), features “Open Heart” musicians Jim Feist, tabla and Janice T. Sunflower, Native American flutes. They join

John Ruzsa, Indian bansuri flutes and alto flute; Chris Comer, Fender Rhodes electric piano and Eugene Goss, percussion, alto flute and vocals. "With the recording of "We Are One", I wanted to explore an expanded harmonic and color palette. Playing with the Fender Rhodes electric piano and using the technique of striking the bowls for melody and rhythm helped to achieve this. I also had many requests for "solo bowls" on my next recording and so they are featured in some solo contexts."

The latest recording, "Soul Burst" (Spiral Music, 2013), is the convergence of two separate trios with the addition of vocals. "I had been going through this mental list of instruments and sounds I wanted to use on my next recording," comments Esposito. "I knew I wanted strings, but decided a yearning feel and a vocal quality could be achieved with a bowed bass. This was a new experience for jazz bassist Steve Flora, but he brought it and the results are transcendent." Marc Wolfley, predominately a jazz percussionist who also performs regularly with the Cincinnati Pops, adds depth and a sense of timelessness to the ensemble's overall sound. Esposito's long-time passion for Indian music is articulated by renowned tabla artist Jim Feist and his frequent partner John Ruzsa, bansuri flute. The sitar performed by Dave Schneider adds another layer of texture weaving between melody and drone. Audrey Causilla's harmonium and vocal performance has a spacious, pristine and heartfelt quality.

During the two years since his last CD was released, Ron's music has found an audience on television. His recordings have been placed in the network and cable television shows "Hawaii 5-0" (CBS), "Nashville" (ABC), "Touch" (Fox), "Common Law" (USA) and "Ray Donovan" (Showtime).

Ron resides in Cincinnati, Ohio where he is a certified Life Coach and Enneagram Teacher at the Conscious Living Center since 2007. He performs in concert, at yoga and meditation centers, and for private events throughout the region

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