

Area native brings his smooth sounds home

BY BRENDA DOMINICK
STAFF WRITER

Smooth jazz — very positive and sensual, with an element of hope and soothing lyrics.

That's how Mark Herschberger, native metro Detroit, saxophonist and keyboardist, speaks of his music.

Herschberger will play and then autograph his newest CD, *World of Survivors* at two locations (Beverly Hills and Novi) within the next month (see related story). The musician picked these Oakland County cities because he feels a connection to the area.

"A lot of it is because my roots are there, and growing up there; that's one of the reasons," he said. Also, he said, because "I've gotten very good response out there."

Herschberger is married with five children and lives in Howell. Yet he stays attached to his roots in Royal Oak, where he was born (1957), and to Troy, where he grew up with his six siblings.

Coming from a family that performed country music, Herschberger has colored his world with music from a very young age. He began playing bongos at five, graduated to piano, then soprano, alto and tenor saxophones. During this time, he also played and com-

posed country songs with his family, played in various rock bands and marched in the Troy High School band.

In the early '70s, while at Oakland University, he studied jazz with world-renowned saxophonist Sam Sanders. He also studied classical music at the University of Michigan School of Music with Don Sinta.

Most recently, Herschberger has performed and recorded in the Detroit area with legendary musicians such as jazz clarinetist Perry Robinson and internationally known rock producer and recording artist Doc Holiday.

Herschberger says playing with Holiday was very memorable.

"He was a really vivacious guy, it was really exciting," he said.

Herschberger's *World Of Survivors* CD, produced by EmusicMasters, came out in December 2001.

The artist said he created this CD "to give back to the community as well as the people, from a musical and spiritual standpoint. I definitely look at music

as a spiritual medium."

Among the nine selections (approximately 57 minutes total) on *Survivors*, four are vocal songs.

"It's very soothing, yet it has energy to it," he said. "Some are very loving and have a sensual feel to it. It does have a smooth jazz and a popular sound to it."

Though much of the CD is easy-going, there's also a touch of culture in it.

"It has a lot of ethnic, global and Motown sound," Herschberger said. "It's got a lot of soul. There's one song that's got kind of a funk, *Excavation*."

"The seventh tune on the disc, *Our Interstellar Parents*, Herschberger said has a down-home-southern jazz sound.

"I have been working on these (songs) for over 30 years," he said. "This one's my baby."

Herschberger said he feels very blessed that things have gone as well as they have.

"I've really got a great group of people playing with me, such as Perry Robinson," he said. "He's a nine-time, Jazz Beat poll winner."

Herschberger enjoys the uniqueness of each instrument.

"I love the easy sound I can get out of the soprano," he said. But, "the tenor sax is my favorite because it's really gutsy



and bluesy. It tends to get to your soul."

He strongly relates to the emotional aftermath of Sept. 11. And though his CD was made before the tragedy, he feels the global dedication aspect of it reflects the same.

"It was geared towards healing," he said. "We have to keep in mind that we are survivors, and we may see more of (this happening). It's a volatile, global world. Dedicating it to the people was something I felt like

I owed to those people and to the world to remember that day."

Herschberger said his next CD, *World Of Survivors: Still Surviving*, will reflect a continuity of this feeling and hope of a more peaceful world.

"Helping and sharing these pieces will help them to see people in a more positive way, and to love people a little more," he said.

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JAZZ IT UP

■ What: Mark Herschberger, jazz saxophonist to play smooth jazz tunes and to sign copies of his new CD, *World of Survivors*.

■ When/Where:

~ 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11
Borders Books & Music

34300 Woodward
Birmingham, MI

~ 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25
Borders Books & Music

43075 Crescent Blvd.
Novi, MI

■ CD information: Mark Herschberger's CD, *World of Survivors* can be purchased at the following locations:

Smooth Jazz, v987's Web site:
www.wvmv.com (link "artist links"), at a discounted price;

Borders Bookstore: Visions Spa Salon, (Novi); Streetcorner Music; Dearborn Music;

www.amazon.com, www.cdbaby.com.

This is how to remove and reload partially exposed film



Focus on Photography

Monte Nagler

Do you ever find yourself in the middle of a roll of slow speed slide film during the day only to be at an evening concert wishing you had high speed print film in your camera instead?

Or maybe halfway through a roll of color film you decide the subject would appear more dramatic in black and white.

Manual winding cameras have a button or switch that needs to be activated in order to rewind the film. Before rewinding, check the frame counter and note how many pictures you've shot. Then rewind slowly and

carefully, being sensitive to the tension of the film as it is wound back into the cassette. As soon as you feel the release of tension, stop rewinding because the film leader has just left the take-up spool. Open the camera back and remove the film cartridge. The leader will be sticking out making reloading at another time a breeze.

One more important thing to do. With a permanent marker, write the number of exposures already taken on the cartridge so you won't forget how many shots you've taken.

When you want to finish your partially shot roll of film, simply reload in the conventional manner. Then, with your lens cap covering the lens and preferable in a darkened room, advance the film to where you left off. For "insurance," you may want to go a couple more frames so you don't get any "weird" double exposures.

Tell your processing lab you removed the film mid-roll and then are loaded so that their automatic machines won't cut the film in the picture area instead of between the frames.

What about cameras that automatically rewind the film entirely

into the cassette? No problem. Get yourself a leader retriever — a device you insert into the lips of the film cassette that pulls out the film. You'll find these in most camera stores and with a little practice, you'll easily be able to retrieve the leader. Then simply reload as already described.

So it's easy to "half" your cake and eat it too, by knowing how to reload a half shot roll of film.

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills. You can leave him a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch tone phone.



Monte Nagler thought this Victorian home in Harbor Springs looked equally well in black and white or color.

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Observer & Eccentric WJR

FIRST NIGHT.

The Cultural Council of Birmingham/Bloomfield presents
New Years' Eve Celebration
Birmingham, Michigan
Tuesday, December 31, 2002

FIRST NIGHT EVENTS

First Night Family Ticket	First Night Star Ticket
\$5.00 per person Children 12 years and under are free Choose from any of the following: - Balloon Lady First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm • 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm - Birmingham Historical Museum Exhibits, Face Painting, Celebrity Photos Birmingham Historical Museum Drop in anytime between 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm Face painting 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	\$10 per person for all ages Marina is recognized throughout Europe as an exhilarating world-class pianist and composer. Marina will include classical music by Chopin and Marina's renditions of America's favorite music. St. James Episcopal Church 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm
Brad Lowe's Fantasy E-Pop Puppets First Church of Christ Scientist - Downtown 7:00 pm - 7:45 pm 8:15 pm - 9:00 pm	The Golden Griffin Stringat Contra Dancing First Baptist Church - Fellowship Hall Drop in anytime between 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Pippin Puppets First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall 7:30 pm - 8:00 pm • 8:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Splitter & Sons Magic St. James Episcopal Church Centennial Hall 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm • 8:30 pm - 9:15 pm
Make a New Year's Eve Mask and Make a "2003" Bag First Baptist Church - Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Village Players Theater \$5.00 per adult \$2.00 per child (14 yrs. and under) Village Players Theater 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Tickets available prior to December 31st at TechnoMasters, 725 S. Adams, Birmingham. TechnoMasters is located on Adams between Lincoln and Maple. Tickets available on December 31st at TechnoMasters and at the door of each performance venue. Payment by cash or check only. No credit cards accepted. For More Info, call: 248-258-9075 or visit website: www.technomasters.com/firstnight

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