



Jazz Promo Services

Sherri Roberts
The Sky Could Send You
Blue House Recordings/ Pacific Coast Jazz 70001
Street Date: February 7, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 7, 2005

JAZZ VOCALIST SHERRI ROBERTS' NEWEST CD, *THE SKY COULD SEND YOU*, TO BE RELEASED BY PACIFIC COAST JAZZ AND BLUE HOUSE RECORDINGS

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Bay Area jazz vocalist **Sherri Roberts'** third recording, *The Sky Could Send You*, is slated for a **release date of February 7, 2006** by her own label, Blue House Recordings, now an associate label of San Diego based Pacific Coast Jazz (PCJ). The new CD is produced and arranged by bassist **Harvie S**, and features guest performances by jazz greats including **Phil Woods** and **Lew Soloff**.

The Sky Could Send You is the third collaboration between Roberts and Harvie S, following their critically acclaimed recordings on the Brownstone label, *Twilight World* (1996) and *Dreamsville* (1998) - which charted for seven weeks on the prestigious Gavin Report. S brings his mastery of jazz and Latin vocabulary to the helm of this new project, which is truly a musical voyage. "Via adventurous rhythms and vivid language, this record carries the listener through new places, cultures, and emotional landscapes," says Roberts. Drawing from a broad palette of instrumental and rhythmic colors, *The Sky Could Send You* features re-imagined jazz and Brazilian standards, original compositions by contemporary artists, and unexpected covers of pop tunes such as Harry Belafonte's *Jamaica Farewell*. The jazz and world grooves provide a rich foundation for Roberts' liquid vocals and intimate lyric delivery.

The record opens with the Latin-tinged cadences of Bobby Troup's *You're Looking At Me*. Originally performed by Nat King Cole as a walking ballad, it is inventively reshaped here as a 3/4 bossa nova with a freewheeling coda that introduces all of the album's soloists. In his liner notes for the recording, Drew Wheeler describes another track where the "buoyant Brazilian feel tempers the lyrical 'saudade' of *Let Me* (once recorded by Sergio Mendes and Brazil '65), which features the artfully unspooling alto lines of Phil Woods." Wheeler comments further that "Sherri's phrasing grows elastic on *Return To Paradise*, which was composed for the 1953 motion picture of that name, based on a tropically-themed James Michener novel." The exotic rhythmic motif throughout this arrangement shifts seamlessly between changing meters. Towards the end of the CD, "the Henry Mancini/Norman Gimbel theme *Slow Hot Wind* is mounted in a glowing, dreamlike atmosphere," says Wheeler, "Yet Sherri's silvery, beacon-like voice cuts through the song's harmonic haze."

Raised in Atlanta, Georgia, Roberts is based today in San Francisco. She has delighted Bay Area fans for nearly two decades, and has toured to major jazz venues, both in the States and abroad. She remains committed to introducing her audience to unusual standards. "I have always been very passionate about lyrics that tell a story," says Roberts. "There are some beautiful standards that aren't heard that often and I

**** MORE ****

try to bring them into the spotlight." A true scholar of American Popular Music, she freely cites such diverse influences as Ella Fitzgerald, Carol Sloane, Chet Baker and Shirley Horn. Praised by critics, Roberts' voice and stylistic approach frequently prompt comparisons to the "Vo-cool" jazz era. "Superb...Singing in warm alto tones that at times recall those of the late June Christy, Roberts brings clear enunciation, perfect pitch, and depth of feeling to (her) material," says the *East Bay Express*. "This is singing that reaches from the pillow to the stars," says the *Calgary Herald*. And the *Los Angeles Times* says, "A superior bop and standards vocalist. [She] puts plenty of swing and feeling into her music."

Harvie S is regarded as one of the great bass players on the jazz scene today. Also an arranger, producer, bandleader, composer and educator, S has performed with masters in both jazz and Latin music including Stan Getz, Dexter Gordon, Pat Metheny, Chick Corea, Gil Evans, Michael Brecker and many others. The duo project of Sheila Jordan and Harvie S set the timeless standard in bass and voice performance. A passionate student of Afro-Cuban, funk, Brazilian and world music for the past decade, S combines these idioms in a bold new music with The Harvie S Band. The band's fourth release, *Funky Cha* is slated for early 2006 and follows the critically praised, *Texas Rumba*.

The Sky Could Send You boasts a rhythm section comprised of top jazz musicians, including **David Udolf**, Roberts' pianist and musical director, **John Hart** on acoustic and electric guitar and **Vince Cherico** on drums. Masterful guest performances are delivered by Lew Soloff, the trumpet virtuoso also known for his work with Tito Puente and Maynard Ferguson, and legendary saxophonist and four-time Grammy award winner Phil Woods. In addition, Tim Collins on vibraphone and Daniel Sadownick and Renato Thoms on Latin percussion bring an expressive textural depth to the project.

Pacific Coast Jazz, founded in 2003, is a boutique jazz label. In early November, Roberts signed an exclusive deal with PCJ, who now handles her artist management services. The deal gives Blue House Recordings access to PCJ distribution channels and national media buying capabilities. *The Sky Could Send You* will be released in the United States and in the UK. Big Daddy Music will handle national distribution in the US and The Woods will handle European distribution.

For more information on Sherri Roberts, please visit: www.sherri-roberts.com, where photos and an electronic press kit are available. For interviews with Sherri Roberts, please contact Jazz Promo Services.

For more information on Pacific Coast Jazz, please visit: www.pacificcoastjazz.com.

Media Contact: Jim Eigo, Jazz Promo Services, 269 S Route 94 Warwick, NY 10990, Phone: 845-986-1677, Fax: 845-986-1699, E-Mail: jazzpromo@earthlink.net, Web Site: www.jazzpromoservices.com/.

