

## Jerome Godboo - Biography

Born and raised in Victoria, B.C., Jerome went to Halifax West High School, and was expelled from grade 12. He formed his first bands in Ottawa. Jerome has made Toronto his home for the past 20 years.

Anyone who has seen Jerome live has the image seared in their mind. There's the machismo and the mischievous grin, the low-slung leather belt of harmonicas, and there's a tenderness and vulnerability as well. Based purely on first impressions, it's easy to make comparisons to Jagger and Morrison, but Jerome imitates no one. If the respect of his peers is anything to go by, Jerome Godboo is a giant on the music scene in Canada. All in all, it's a potent mix, one that combines the still vibrant musical legacy of more than a century of the blues with a passion and urgency that constantly renews itself.

Jerome Godboo is a singer, songwriter and harp player extraordinaire. He has released twelve albums over twenty years. He's recorded and toured with the Phantoms, Alannah Myles, Dutch Mason, Jeff Healey, Ronnie Hawkins, Jack de Keyzer, Jimmy Bowskill and Suzie McNeil. Jerome has performed on stages across Canada, the U.S., France, Finland, Portugal, Ukraine, Israel and beyond. He's played with Prince, Pinetop Perkins, James Cotton, The Tragically Hip, Levon Helm, Billy Ray Cyrus and many more.

Jerome has electrified audiences of all sizes. He headlined at the Montreal Jazz Festival (2005). He played the Toronto Air Canada Centre with Ronnie Hawkins. He played to a record-breaking crowd at the Montreal Jazz Festival (2004) and another 30,000 at Canada Day festivities with Jimmy Bowskill. Jerome wowed the crowd at the Vancouver and Victoria Jazz Festivals with Reuben Cherry. Jerome's network television appearances include CTV's Open Mike and Canada A.M., Much Music, City TV's Toronto Rocks and Breakfast Television, Global's News at Noon, CBC's Zed, TVO's Planet Parent, and In Session. He's also been showcased at Moses Znaimer's Idea City and on numerous radio shows.

Jerome's current band includes Shawn Kellerman and Pat Rush, alternating on guitar, Alec Fraser on bass and Al Cross on drums. Shawn has toured with Mel Brown, Deborah Coleman, Bobby Rush, Carlos Del Junco and Paul Reddick. Pat has recorded and toured with Jeff Healey and Johnny Winter and toured with James Cotton. Alec played bass with David Wilcox, Bo Diddley, the Drifters, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, and has played with Jeff Healey for the past seven years. Al drummed on tour and in the studio with Jane Siberry, Bob Snider and Big Sugar.