

# FOCUS

## KIRK GREEN DEBUTS 'HEART 2 HEART'



Portland's silky smooth vocalist completes CD collection

Silky smooth vocalist Kirk Green is celebrating the release of his new CD "Heart 2 Heart," a collection of 11 original sounds in a beautifully produced and masterfully engineered format.

The popular Portland musician has succeeded in creating a life's work collection of smooth jazz, R&B, contemporary songs, gospel and love ballads.

Green's rich soulful voice carries the passion of genuine love. His soothing sounds make you feel good and create a sense of tranquility.

An unquestionable star on the rise, Green uses his wide range of emotional voice and enthralling music to send your heart soaring. "Heart 2 Heart" seduces you into a hypnotic trance forcing you to close your eyes, rock to the rhythm and fall in love.

The CD was released this month in the San Francisco-Oakland bay area and debuts in the Pacific Northwest and other locations in January.

"Heart 2 Heart" also introduces the new "Rose City Mix" label, Green's own record company. As executive producer, artist and

publisher, Green has created a music company for himself and other artists to express their talents in a format of unsurpassed

goals," Green said. "Now I'm going on to the other chapters in my life."

And what's next for this talented artist?

He hopes "Heart 2 Heart" will win a Grammy award, and he's authoring a book entitled "Eight Steps to Playing Piano."

Green was born in Long Beach, Calif., the son of a minister. He started performing at the age of four and learned piano at the age of 12.

While at Wilson High School in Portland he enrolled in the "music magnet" program at Jefferson High School. He learned music theory at Portland State University. He has

served as musical director at several Portland churches and as choral instructor at Jefferson and Wilson.

From the piano to vocal jazz improvisation, this versatile artist performs regularly at Bacchus' in Vancouver; at the Royal Esquire in north Portland; and at

quality. "Heart 2 Heart" exceeds all expectations with a team of professional musicians as accompanying artists. The CD has rich, clear layers of sound, crisp percussion and sexy vocals. It was recorded at Pierce Studios in Vancouver and mastered at Falcon Recording Studios in Portland.

"It's very satisfying to fulfill my dreams and accomplish my



Kirk Green

### Too Short; Saturday, Dec. 21

The Roseland Theater welcomes Too Short, the Bay Area's original pimp lyricist who has released an unprecedented total of ten straight LP's filled with his unique blend of laid-back folk poetry. Too Short will perform with Andre' Nickatina, Cool Nutz, Got 'em and Mister at this all ages show beginning at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$30 at the door and \$25 in advance at Safeway Fastixx or by calling, 503-244-TIXX.

### Turning KIDS on

continued ▲ from Metro  
are turning kids on to music just as budget cuts have killed music education in the traditional classroom.

"The main reason for Ethos is to bring music back to the kids who aren't getting it in the schools," Charles said.

Lewis developed a similar program in Cambridge, Mass. from scratch. He then brought the program's outline to Portland.

The Portland center is equipped with a piano room, hip-hop room, a drum room and recording studios. Ethos offers affordable lessons on a variety of instruments and musical styles.

"More affluent families can pay for lessons," said Lewis. "We target middle and lower income kids."

A sliding scale and scholarships are available to bring the low cost down even further.

"Eight weeks of lessons may be as little as 20 dollars," Lewis said.

Students who can't afford to buy or rent their own instruments can check them out from the Ethos collection. Everything from drums, to amps, to guitars are

available. The instruments are mostly donated.

The program gets introduced at local schools with "Sound School Assemblies" where kids experience music and dance firsthand.

At a recent assembly at Boise Elliot, Earl and the Reggae AllStars got hundreds of kids hopping and drumming to the sounds of Jamaica.

Teachers at Ethos are mostly university students or professional musicians.

Lewis and Barba have seen kids come out of their shells as they open up to music and gain confidence in its world of sound, rhythm, and melody.

"Kids love it," Lewis said. "It really builds self-esteem."

"There are a lot of academic benefits," Lewis said. "Studies show that kids with a background in music score higher on SAT's."

"It's constructive," Barba said. "It's an easy way for kids to communicate."

While Ethos focuses its programs on school age children, the group also offers classes for adults.

For more information about Ethos, call 503-283-8467.

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