



Megan Jerome, vocals, accordion and piano. Following family singsongs and classical piano lessons, Megan earned a degree in jazz piano at Carleton University (B. Music, Highest Honours). Drawing on contemporary artsong, jazz and folk music, Megan creates uniquely quirky, modern and beguiling homemade songs. Megan's artful compositions feature open-hearted and occasionally saucy vocals; energetic, syncopated rhythm; beautiful sounds; contemporary contrapuntal lines and a minimalist piano style. Megan's music is at once "avant-folk" and "boho-jazz" (Peter Hum, Fateema Sayani, The Ottawa Citizen). Her two recordings, *Unlonely* and *This Uneven Pace*, have topped charts on community and CBC radio stations nationwide.

Mike Essoudry, percussion, is a sensitive, active and responsive drummer, with strong musical intuition. He received a Master of Music degree (Jazz Drumset Performance) from McGill University in 2003. Mike is active in the Ottawa improvised and jazz music scene. In 2006, he released a duo album on the Malasartes label. In 2009, the Ottawa Jazz Festival presented the CD release concert for Mike's recording of his own compositions for jazz octet, *Passage*. Mike composes for many different groups and performs in many different musical settings from folk to musical theatre, from jazz to rock. Mike is also an active teacher and dance accompanist.

Mike and Megan have been playing music together for 10 years, as long as they've been in love.

PROGRAMME

- Starry Star* *a celestial love song*
 Copper and Stars *a song about treasures lost and found,
 written at an old Hudson's Bay cottage*
 Two Loves *an upbeat waltz about a lover with a unique
 solution to a little dilemma...*
 Upside Down *a passionate song inspired by a Marc
 Chagall painting*
 Tin Star *an ode to a special man in Ottawa*
 Big Old Moon ...*a song about what love means to one humble
 young man (lyrics: M. Jerome; music: C. Bartos, b. 1974)*
 Ils ne s'ont aimés... *a French story about finding love...at last*
 Vitebsk *an old-world style folk song with an uplifting
 message from a benevolent vagabond*
 Flora *a delicate piano song about an amorous acrobat*
 Unlonely *a remarkable love song*
 Cake Tray *a fun cabaret ditty about old-fashioned love*
 Little Girls *a saucy little number about being just a
 little bit naughty*
 Who Loves *a spicy, jazzy number*
 Skating .*a song in celebration of Ottawa's special winter treat*
 Amour *a beautiful chanson, sung in French and English*
 A Prayer for Good *a powerful song based on a very simple
 prayer*

*except where indicated, all songs by M Jerome (b. 1974)