

MAMEO MUSIC SOUND WAVES AT THE BEACH

By Joanne Hagen
The Lake Schooner

Miles Jackson and wife Jocelyne have created the ultimate combination for balancing work with pleasure and amplifying creativity with conducive surroundings. Operating Ma-Me-O Music Ltd. since 1997, the Jacksons offer recording artists, musicians and other patrons, a first-class, fully-equipped professional recording studio situated on a picturesque village street only twenty feet from three kilometres of fine, sandy beach. In the world of creative partisans, walking a beautiful shoreline can be as inspiring as it is calming. The Jacksons have carved out a year-round niche where musicians can go to get the work done and unwind at the same time.

A Lifetime of Creative Contribution

Miles Jackson's extensive experience as musician/performer/director has earned him a reputation of excellence in the industry. Prior to fifteen years of suc-

cessful ownership of Milestone Productions in Calgary, Miles and Jocelyn owned the Old Scotch pub, an establishment where those frequenting the tavern included Jan Arden, Jeff Healy, k.d. lang, Dick Damron, the Canadian Jazz band Uzeb, and Ian Tyson. These and many other well-knowns would drop in at the pub, often to jam along with Miles and his band, named "Band Dujour".

Over the years Miles has played with numerous groups such as Richter Ten, Barry Allen and the Cheyenne Winter, Cannonball, Stratus Faction, Backline Orchestra, Milestone Trio, and more. Approximately three times per year for two decades, Jackson toured with Frank Mills (Music Box Dancer) until Mills retired in 2000.

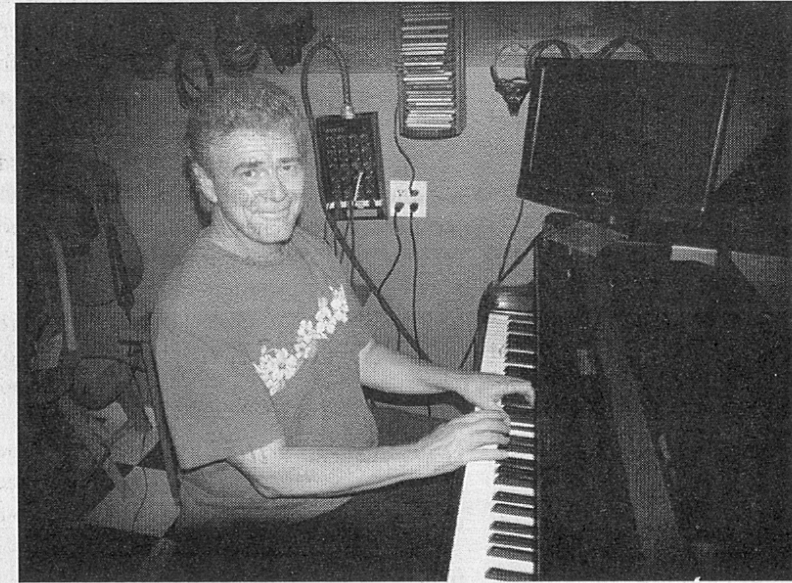
Although a master of many instruments, including flute, drums, accordion, and mandolin, the ivories are Miles first love. Playing the piano since he was five years old, Jackson says now he plays more with electric keyboards, midi, computers and software. Ma-Me-O Music has drawn some of the world's best through its

doors, including Tim Waterson from Edmonton, 2002 title holder for Fastest Foot Drummer in the World (at then-world record 1,407 double beats per minute), to working with Dean Ray, an unbelievably Bryan Adams, voice-alike.

Encouraging Young Talent

An ardent supporter of the Calgary Stampede Youth Talent contest, Jackson works with the Rockin' Al and the Dream Crushers band backing up some 60 to 80 contestants. Bandleader Al Muirhead is conductor and plays trumpet, Jackson explained as he pointed out the members of his band from a picture, Steve Foster on drums, Kai Poscente playing bass, Bobby Cairns playing guitar, Eric Friedenbergs on sax, flute, keys and clarinet, and Miles on keyboard.

"This year we had 65 kids," said Miles, "so we worked with about fourteen a day." Contestants range from 13 to 21 years old, he continued, the talent was amazing making the selection process difficult, and that many former winners have gone on to



successful careers, he smiled, such as Paul Brandt, Gavin Hope, Bret Barrow, and Maureen Murphy. Meg Contini took first place at this year's 2010 contest.

Mexico Coming Up?

Living in a quiet, getaway, beachside-resort area, I had to ask, where do Miles and Jocelyne Jackson go to get away?

"Mexico," said Jocelyne,

quite readily, and with a glint in her eye, "We know a beautiful spot..." Miles Jackson has produced and arranged CD's ranging from folk to classical to jazz to speedrock, and from marching bands to gospel to native powwow music, and more. For more information on Ma-Me-O Music Ltd. call Miles at 780-586-2678, email to miles@ma-me-o.com, or visit website www.ma-me-o.com.