

Kimberly Ford CD Release Party



KIMBERLY KAVISH

Jazz Vocalist Kimberly Ford

Sets a “New Standard” at the **CD Release Party** for **“Songs In The Key Of Sea”** (which benefits the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation)

Presented in partnership with the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum, jazz vocalist Kimberly Ford released her latest CD/DVD, *Songs In The Key Of Sea*, at a premier film screening and gala event at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum last Thursday night, May 17th; a fitting venue as a percentage of the proceeds from the CD/DVD will benefit the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation.

The album is comprised of “ocean theme” jazz standards with some new original material: “kind of a whimsical idea with an environmental awareness intent,” according to Kimberly. An added bonus is a breathtakingly beautiful music video (DVD) by Emmy Award winning underwater filmmaker, Mike deGruy, set to an original soundtrack by Kimberly and band member Mark Waggoner.

“It was a fabulous evening, I was overwhelmed with the attendance,” commented Kimberly. The Maritime Museum was packed to the brim with well wishers, family, and the many artists who contributed to the making of *Songs In The Key Of Sea* including filmmaker Mike deGruy, art director Kim Kavish, photographer/filmmaker Jim Knowlton from Ocean Futures, sound editor Emmet Sargeant, and

video editor Shannon Dybvig. Jon Williams of Table Rockers Productions generously offered his services to capture the dazzling night on film. The performance included many of the songs from the CD performed by Kimberly and her LA-based quartet with Ryan McGillicuddy on bass, Jamie Rosenn on guitar, Jason Harnell on drums, Leonard Thompson on piano, and special guests, Santa Barbara’s own Chris Judge and Teka. Teka performed a Portuguese song, *Oceano*, in duet with Kimberly and Judge on guitar.

Mike deGruy opened up the evening with his usual flair for humorous story telling explaining some behind the scenes challenges of the project. He then turned the evening over to the Chris Mobley, Director of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Mobely praised Ford for creating a new standard by combining her music with her dedication to marine environmental awareness and also by working closely with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation to realize this vision.

Kimberly took the stage and transfixed the audience for the next 45 minutes as the group performed selections from the CD, showing their dynamic range and depth. They per-

formed in front of a montage of beautiful underwater and island images created by NOAA’s maritime archeologist, Bob Schwemmer, as a backdrop on the Maritime Museum’s large plasma screen.

Kimberly Ford clearly has set a new standard and has won the hearts and imagination of many in so doing. *Songs In The Key Of Sea*, now available at select locations and on-line at CD Baby, is not to be missed.

The Kimberly Ford Band performs the 4th Wed. of each month at Montecito’s Stella Mare near the bird refuge. The band begins a national tour next month with the first stop being the Coleman Hawkins Jazz Festival just south of Kansas City. An exciting new development is the possibility of a Japanese tour which is in the works, enabling them to carry their combined message of environmental awareness and the gospel of classic jazz as well as their sometime avant garde jazz stylings globally.