

JOHNNY HIGH-HAT



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HEART OF A CLOWN

There is the old adage — “it’s the singer not the song.” With Johnny High-Hat’s new recording, *Heart of a Clown*, it’s both the singer and the song! From the musical barrooms of Nashville to the hallowed stage of the Berliner Ensemble, High-Hat’s (stage name of John Highkin) diverse experiences are borne out in the song selection of his debut recording.

High-Hat tackles everything from well-known standards (“Pennies from Heaven,” “Route 66,” and “September Song”), vintage country (“Rockin’, Rollin’ Ocean,” “(Now and Then There’s) A Fool Such As I”) and lesser known gems (“It Must Be Love” and “A Thousand Goodnights”) to present a cohesive set of songs that address hunger, longing, and sadness, change and affirmation.

Far from being a rote recreation or postmodern pastiche, High-Hat — with the help of cracker-jack producers/ arrangers/ accompanists Mark Daniszky and Steve Jirak — has given the songs of *Heart of a Clown* compelling, contemporary arrangements and a timeless tone that insures his debut won’t be pigeonholed as a backward looking genre exercise. *Heart of a Clown* also features the talents of the nationally acclaimed roots band The Wiyos on four tracks—adding further musical depth and character.

As you listen to High-Hat’s recording debut, let the songs settle in and move your spirit—you’ll be singing and humming along while you enjoy the ride.

Michael J. Zimmerman, January 2013

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Track Listing

1. **It Must Be Love**
2. Route 66
3. Rockin’, Rollin’ Ocean
4. Heart of a Clown
5. Gingerbread Waltz
6. One More Ride
7. **Pipeliners Blues**
8. September Song
9. (Now and Then There’s)
A Fool Such As I
10. South
11. Pennies From Heaven
12. **‘Deed I Do**
13. A Thousand Goodnights

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