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ED JOHNSON, FACT SHEET

Musical Style/Genre: Vibrant, original contemporary jazz with a Brazilian and Latin feel and a refreshing emphasis on harmony vocals and horn arrangements. Ed's music is evocative of Brazilian pop, but unlike anything you've heard before.

City of Origin: Palo Alto, California, USA

Key Points of Interest: Ed's new 2007 release *The Other Road* (Cumulus Records) showcases his considerable talents as a composer, vocalist, guitarist, and arranger. The twelve original songs and compositions on this album (eleven written by Ed) unfold like exotic landscapes, evoking lush images in sound. The album features brilliant solo and ensemble performances from all the members of NOVO TEMPO: brass man JOHN WORLEY, KRISTEN STROM on woodwinds, guitar/ mandolin wizard SCOTT SORKIN, and Canadian pianist and songstress JENNIFER SCOTT. The rhythm sections features Canadian bass star RENE WORST, drummer MARK IVESTER, and percussionists JEFF BUSCH and MICHAELLE GOERLITZ. Additional drums and percussion are provided by JASON LEWIS and BRIAN RICE.

Movimento, Ed's 2004 release, fully realizes the tight ensemble performance of Ed's touring band, NOVO TEMPO. The album earned high praise from radio programmers and publications such as Jazz Times Magazine, All About Jazz and JazzReview.com. **Movimento** reached the *Chartbound* section of the Jazz Week chart in September 2004. Additionally, Ed was a finalist in this year's **Independent Music Award's** Latin category.

Ed's previous release, 2002's *Over That Wave*, received national airplay, glowing comments from programmers, terrific print reviews, and made the Bubbling Under section of the Yellow Dog Jazz chart.

His first solo release, 1994's **House Of Doors**, brought Ed's songwriting talents to a national audience for the first time, and his collaboration with many of the top names in the recording business bore considerable fruit in this collection of ten gems.

ED JOHNSON, FACT SHEET, continued

Background: As a vocalist, Ed is frequently compared to **Ivan Lins, Milton Nascimento, Kenny Rankin,** and **Michael Franks**. Ed excels at scat vocals, frequently teaming with Canadian diva Jennifer Scott for vocalese duets that bring to mind **Tania Maria**. As a guitarist and bandleader, critics often cite the lushly exotic, accessible sounds of **Airto and Flora Purim**. Ed has seven recording projects to his credit, in addition to producer's credits for other singer/songwriters.

Over the past three decades, Ed has showcased his vocal arranging talents in numerous groups including the critically acclaimed SHARP 9, and THE GRYPHON QUINTET, with which he recorded several albums. Additionally, Ed is an in-demand guitar clinician and the co-author of an instructional CD and booklet on harmony singing. Ed's 20-year tenure as co-director of the Bay Area's popular GRYPHON CAROLERS has been the proving ground for his deep interest in vocal arrangements. Further credits include two interactive sound exhibits for Seattle's EXPERIENCE MUSIC PROJECT.