

move

debra blaquiere

STANDARDS INSPIRED BY ANGELS

little wing

## little wing

For some we only meet angels in heaven. Often they have big white elaborate wings with a white dress, with a pure soul, and no problems in life.

For others they are romantic with crystal blue eyes and red lips for kissing, the angels of love. And lets not forget that angels can have a dark side, the angels of heartbreak.

Angels have different tasks such as helping people get through tough times, protecting them, and maybe even help find them a parking spot. Angels are definitely not invisible so I think even my best friend could be an angel.

I don't think angels are just in heaven. They are down here on earth and have met with many a great songwriter and composer. **little wing** is an album full of tried and true jazz standards, fashioned around the singular theme of angels.

When there are clouds out during the day and it seems glum and dark just remember there are angels reeking havoc everywhere.

## about the music

The songs on **little wing** range from the haunting to the sexy with measures of whimsy and romance. The mood shifts from the humour of the upbeat **And the Angels Sing** to the dark shadowy **Close to You** to the lush beauty and personal lyrics of **If Wishes Were Kisses**.

Musically **little wing** places emphasis on the brilliance and distinctive sophistication of piano player **Joe Chindamo**, who is so special, and the playful bassist **Philip Rex**.

The producer in me decided this, so that my album would have wider audience appeal. In my opinion Joe is the best piano player in the universe. Phil is a natural bass player, and could execute everything presented to him, but still assert his own identity. He plays in a way that is meaningful to every song

The idea of the piano accordion was Joe's. It proved to be such a good call.

## thanks & credits

This is a brief and certainly incomplete list of people to whom I give immeasurable thanks for making **little wing** possible:

**to Joe Chindamo and Philip Rex –  
You're the best!**



to Alex, Jessica and Francesca for their little wings, Chantal for French translation, Olivia Chindamo for French coaching, Martine and Lily for their undying enthusiasm and friendship and Jeremy Challender for his beautiful composition, to Ben and Chris the special guys in my life

extra thanks to Ray, Don and Rolland

and to all the personnel at Move Records

### **cover design**

Deborah Sullivan

### **booklet design**

Alessandro Servadei

### **digital photography**

Debra Blaquiere



## about the artists

sydney based, vocalist-songwriter **Debra Blaquiere** has earned a reputation as an independent artist winning over local fans with her uncanny ability to stake new claims on contemporary pop tunes, and interpretations of gorgeous jazz standards. She is a product of our time, and plays respectful homage to those who have influenced her such as Doris Day, Dean Martin, Nat King Cole Trio and the composers both pop and jazz of great American songwriters Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Rodgers and Hart, Joni Mitchell, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Burt Bacharach and many more.  
wwDebra was born in England to a guitar-

playing father Clifton Jarvis Blaquiere “Toni” who had played with the “Duke” and continued playing a residency in a Pub in Shepherds Bush London. After completing a Bachelor of Science at Macquarie and Jazz Vocal Studies at the Access Centre Conservatorium of Music Sydney Debra decided it was time to get out there on the Sydney Jazz scene and landed at Move Records Melbourne.

Debra has previously recorded two singles **This Time We Say Good-bye** (1999) and **Love’s Dance** with a very moving 5/4 piano solo played by the song’s composer Jeremy Challender (2001), and one independent full-length album **Getting to Know Me** (2001).

In writing songs first comes the experience right out of life. Then my emotions will dictate where the song will go. Or it may start with a melody not always composed by me. I will then link that to a personal experience. When it comes down to actual interpretation by players I no longer own the song. It takes on a new form and personality. I like that a lot. I never interfere with this process.

**Joe Chindamo** is the 2002 ‘MO’ award winner for “Jazz Instrumental performer of the year”. His CD (one of seven), **Joy of Standards** reached number one on the HMV jazz charts in Japan. He has toured the world twenty times with US drummer Billy Cobham and has played piano on over sixty film scores, including **Man from Snowy River II, Pharlap** and **Babe**. His talents as an accompanist are evident in his work on the recordings and performances of such singers as Nina Ferro (with whom he collaborated on the CD **Tender is the Night**), Vince Jones, Christine Sullivan, Marina Prior, Olivia Newton John, Debra Byrne, Anthony Warlow, Yvonne Kenny, Kiri Te Kanawa and Shirley Bassey.

**Philip Rex** is one of Australia’s most in demand musicians, being a leading exponent of the Double Bass; and also plays the Tuba and Electric Bass as his second instruments. His musical skill and versatility has been noted by musicians and critics everywhere. Rex has made an impression as one of the truly versatile players of his instrument, and aside from his experience in the jazz field, plays regularly in Reggae, Tango, Funk, Brazilian, Cuban, and even Electronic Dance acts.

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debra blaquiere  
little wing  
standards inspired by angels

with joe chindamo **piano & accordion**  
and philip rex **double bass**

- 1 like someone in love (James Van Heusen / Johnny Burke) 4'40"
- 2 angel bells (Harry Ruby / Herbert Spencer / Earle Hagan) 6'02"
- 3 and the angels sing (Johnny Mercer / Ziggy Elman) 5'08"
- 4 close to you (Hal David / Burt Bacharach) 2'42"
- 5 if wishes were kisses (Debra Blaquiere / Jeremy Challender) 5'32"
- 6 got a date with an angel  
(Clifford Grey / Sonny Miller / Jack Waller / Joseph Tunbridge) 4'25"
- 7 come fly with me (Sammy Cahn / James Van Heusen) 6'03"
- 8 angel eyes (M. Brent / E. Dennis) 4'22"
- 9 I married an angel (Richard Rodgers / Lorenz Hart) 2'57"
- 10 you may not be an angel (Al Dubin / Harry Warren) 4'31"
- 11 carried away (Graham Nash) 3'18"
- 12 little wing (Debra Blaquiere) 3'57"

Move Records is pleased to announce that **Little Wing** is its first **hi-resolution recording in both 24 bit and 88.2kHz**. By using the proprietary Waves L2 9th-order noise shaping and dithering process to convert this to the standard 16bit/44.1kHz resolution of the compact disc, much of the added dynamic range, detail, space and ambience in the hi-resolution digital master of this intimate acoustic jazz album is retained. In addition, employing microphones known for their overall flat response, a high quality in-studio neutral preamplifier, pristine analog-to-digital conversion using the latest ProTools HD (High Definition) technology and a minimum of post-processing, this recording is indeed remarkably faithful to the original performance – a quality often lost through the use of excessive compression and equalisation. We therefore hope you enjoy what will be the first of many such hi-resolution endeavours from Move Records.

**recording venue**

Move Records studio, Eaglemont, Australia,  
4-5 October 2002

**microphones**

Sennheiser MKH-20 (piano) and Audio Technica  
AT4050 (vocals, bass, piano accordion)

**in-studio microphone preamplifier**

Digidesign PRE

**24-bit/88.2kHz digital recording and editing**

ProTools | HD2 system with 192 interface

**monitor speakers**

Tannoy System 1000 and B&W 801

**24 to 16-bit encoding**

Waves L2

**piano**

Yamaha C7

**recording and mixing engineers**

Martin Wright and Thomas Grubb

**mastering engineer**

Martin Wright