



# MIKE SMITH

HOME RECORDINGS **BIO** NEWS & EVENTS CONTACT MEDIA



**EVERY WEDNESDAY**  
**ANDY'S JAZZ CLUB**  
**MIKE SMITH**

11 E HUBBARD ST.  
 CHICAGO, IL  
 312-642-6805  
 8:30pm - 1:00am

**JORDAN BASKIN**  
DRUMS  
**JEFF HAMANN**  
PIANO  
**MIKE SCHLICK**  
DRUMS



A Chicago native, Mike Smith first became enthralled with jazz as an eleven-year-old beginning band student. And his dedication to the art form was so great that eight years later he won the coveted Charlie Parker Scholarship to North Texas State University and was a student of famed saxophone professor Jim Riggs. He earned a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Performance.

Mike has performed and recorded with over a hundred jazz greats, including Nat Adderley, Clark Terry, Art Farmer, Tony Bennett, Jimmy Heath, Natalie Cole, Linda Ronstadt, Diane Schuur, Gloria Morgan, Kurt Elling, Nancy Wilson, Frank Sinatra and Frank Sinatra Jr. He is featured as lead altoist on the Harry Connick, Jr. album Come By Me on CBS Columbia.

After spending time with the bands of Maynard Ferguson and Buddy Rich, Mike joined Frank Sinatra's core band as lead altoist and music contractor. His stint with Sinatra included television performances and CD recordings, and the Diamond Jubilee and Come Swing With Me tours (with performances in Japan, Australia, the U.S. and Europe--including a gala in Monte Carlo for the Princess Grace Foundation.) Those years on the road inspired Mike's third recording for Delmark Records, The Traveler. Mike has continued on as the lead altoist for Frank Sinatra, Jr., touring Europe and the United States. Mike has also held down a continuous weekly gig at Andy's jazz club in Chicago. This year Mike celebrates thirt-four years at this famed venue.

In his travels Mike has done numerous radio interviews featured on jazz stations nationwide. The Mike Smith Quintet has opened the Chicago Jazz Festival, and Mike is a recipient of the Cannonball Adderley Award for Outstanding Alto Saxophonist in Jazz and a winner of a National Endowment for the Arts award. He has received critical acclaim for his album, Sinatra Songbook, which features liner notes by Frank Sinatra and Frank Sinatra, Jr. Mike is also a Keilwerth saxophone and D'Addario woodwind artist. He has performed as a guest soloist and lecturer, giving master classes and concerts at the Eastman School of Music, the University of North Texas, the Berklee School of Music, Pepperdine University, the University of Miami, and University of Colorado, Boulder, to name a few. Mike has also performed with and work shopped the Navy and Air Force bands in Washington, D.C. His tours have taken him to Southeast Asia, Scandinavia, France, Germany, and the World Saxophone Congress in Spain. He is currently active in the Chicago recording scene, doing national spots for radio and



television, Professor of Saxophone at the Chicago College of the Performing Arts at Roosevelt University and performing with his group, the Mike Smith Quartet.