

Justin Young Media Kit



• Biography

Early Years

Justin Young was born on June 25, 1980, in Warren, Michigan, the son of a musically-talented father. Justin's passion for music started practically at birth when he started dragging his plastic guitar everywhere as a kid when he was 2 years old. Justin's Dad, Jim Young ended up making a guitar cord Justin could plug into the guitar and then underneath the couch cushion, which was the guitar amplifier. Jim Young is a very talented guitarist/keyboardist and performed in Top 40 bands. Rehearsals were often in the house so music was always around. It wasn't out of the normal for Justin to go to rehearsals with his Dad at 4 years old and bring his plastic guitar, the love for music officially started! He took an early interest in music and began playing the saxophone at the age of 9. In his teens, he continued on with the instrument while falling in love with the R&B sounds of groups like Earth Wind & Fire, The Gap Band and Michael Jackson.

Justin began performing with his dad's Top 40 band, Kaleidoscope. That's where Justin honed his live show performances and endurance since the calendar had at least 20 shows per month with as many as 5 performances each weekend.

Commercial Success

Success came in 2007 after releasing his debut album *On The Way*. He moved to Los Angeles, and began performing with his band at various Jazz festivals.

The Detroit bred saxophonist earned his place on the jazz stage after an impressive win at the 2007 Capital Jazz New Artist Challenge in Columbia, Maryland. Following his win, Young played at the six-day Capital Jazz Super Cruise alongside Boney James, Brian Culbertson, Kim Waters and other jazz stars.

With his 2007 release, *On The Way*, which featured collaborations with Grammy award winning guitarist Paul Brown, Tim Bowman, and keyboardist Tom Schuman of Spyro Gyra. He was a frequent headliner at Detroit casinos while attending Michigan State University, and acquired a taste for R&B/soul inspired jazz. He rose into the smooth jazz world by obtaining radio spins from respected jazz radio stations across the country.

With his 2008 releases "Nothin' But Love" and "Home for the Holidays", Justin enjoyed airplay from The Weather Channel and Delta Airlines along with radio stations across the U.S. Since then, Justin has become a budding new star waiting to be launched into commercial success.

**" EACH OF MY SONGS TELL A STORY OF MY
LIFE"
– Justin Young**

Influences

Justin's most significant influences growing up were Jeff Lorber, Prince, Maceo Parker, Kenny G, Tower of Power, Earth Wind and Fire, Michael Jackson and the Gap Band. Justin states, "My first CD was "Mo Roots" by Maceo Parker. The unique sound of Maceo's rhythms on sax and the feel he had on his album really intrigued me. I like music that grooves and takes me to a different place than the place I was at when I started listening to the song.

Degrees

After graduating from high school at University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe MI, he enrolled at Michigan State University and began studying mechanical engineering, but still pursued his passion, a career in music. Years later, Justin completed his MBA at The University of Oklahoma in 2014.

The New Album

The New album is all about getting back to the basics of real instruments, analog equipment and unique saxophone rhythms. Live musicians performed in the recording studio which gives the songs a distinct uniqueness. No sequencers were used in the making of this album adding to the realness of music. The songs have a lot of raw feel and emotion without the aid of a computer changing the rhythm. The melodies on the saxophone have an undeniable old school feel with a unique twist of Gospel, Funk and R&B.

Personal Life

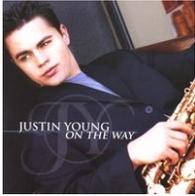
Justin Young is an engineer by day and musician at night. He lives in Oklahoma with his wife, Rachel and their two children, Tyson and Vivienne. After releasing two albums in 2009 (*Nothin But Love and Home for the Holidays*), Justin took some time away from the studio to be with his family and complete a Masters in Business. Their son, Tyson was born in 2009 and daughter Vivienne was born in 2013. Justin is performing regularly and working on a new album.

Discography

2006 Rendezvous
2007 On The Way
2009 Nothin But Love
2009 Home for the Holidays
2016 Blue Soul

Website/Video/Music clips

Available at www.justinyoungsax.com



High resolution press photos





Promotional videos

KTLA Live Studio Performance: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vhj-Qe6sFjM>

Sunny Music Video with pics from Capital Jazz Cruise:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nk77L4K51W0>

New Day Live: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U384V23lnf8>

Press reviews and interviews

JazzTimes Review of Nothin But Love: <http://jazztimes.com/community/articles/25376-justin-young>

Star Portrait Interview: <http://www.smooth-jazz.de/starportrait/Young/ontheway.htm>

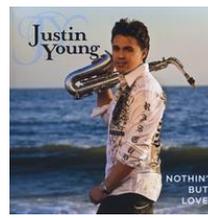
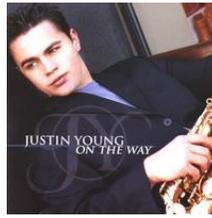
JazzTimes Review of Home for the Holidays:
<http://jazztimes.com/community/articles/25531-justin-young>

Blog Talk Radio Interview: <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/talking-smooth-jazz/2009/12/05/saxophonist-justin-young>

The Smooth Jazz Ride Interview: http://www.thesmoothjazzride.com/justin_young/

Merchandise

Available at www.justinyoungsax.com in the 'Store'



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