

Bio for Johnny Schaefer

Johnny Schaefer is a Los Angeles-based singer and songwriter of eclectic music. He has a BA in Music (Composition and Voice) from California State University, Fullerton. While attending school there, he placed third in the Vocal Arts competition behind international opera stars Deborah Voight and Rod Gilfrey. He has sung backup for Josh Groban, Melissa Manchester, Sarah Vaughan, Pete Townsend, Billy Idol, Diahann Carroll, and others. He is a semi-finalist in two categories in the International Songwriting Competition for his song and music video, *Unflown*. He is a winner in Melissa Manchester's "Fanchester Video Cover Contest" for his mashup of Melissa's *Midnight Blue and Lights of Dawn*. He has collaborated with Producer Stephan Oberhoff (Heartbeat Brazil), Bram Stoker Award-winning author and lyricist Elizabeth Massie, best-selling author Marianne Williamson, Carol Robbins-jazz harpist, Christoph Bull, Paul the Trombonist, Chad Ellis, and composer Lynn Kowal. He has been a cantor at Blessed Sacrament Church in Hollywood, CA since 1981. Johnny has two albums. one is an eclectic mix of mostly original tunes. The other is a Christmas album taking the listener from Advent through Epiphany. 7 of the songs are original and 7 are classics. Johnny's single, *Finlandia Brasileira*, is a Bossa Nova treatment of a Christmas lyric Johnny wrote to the beloved melody, *Finlandia*, by Jean Sibelius. Producer Stephan Oberhoff of Heartbeat Brazil, fresh from co-producing with Quincy Jones, created the Latin soundscape.

His latest release is a song and music video, *What Kind of Love*, protesting the detention centers where legitimate asylum seekers have been subjected to forced sterilization, rape, and family separation.

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