



JACK SHAPIRA – President, Contact Artist Management/Unison Studios (CAN)

Jack Shapira has been involved in all aspects of the arts, music and entertainment business for the better part of his adult life. Over the years he has made a name for himself as a record producer and manager of talented up and coming artists. He has been recording for over 25 years, has been a producer for over 10 and was previously nominated for Producer of the Year in 2007. Jack has been responsible for developing and producing a number of new up and coming performers, most recently, Jason Kirkness (2 singles released to Canadian Country Radio, 2 Top 100 Chartings, signed to major distribution through MDM Recordings), Jerry Sereda (2 singles released to Canadian Country Radio, Top 100 and Top 50 National Chartings, #1 Regional charting, CMT Video Release, signed to MDM Recordings/EMI Canada) and Bryce Pallister (4 singles released to Canadian Country Radio, CMT Video release, signed to MDM Recordings).

Over the years, Shapira has also been the producer and management behind Canadian Indie darlings, The Details (EP and Album Producer), who have seen success at US and Canadian College radio, touring and TV Placements, rockers, The Nods (2 albums, 1 EP), who also have had a CMJ Top 100 college charting, Canadian radio play, various tours and showcases throughout Canada and the US as well as TV and movie placements. Jack also produced and developed Country singer songwriter, Ron Loutit, who had his first album nominated for Country Album of the Year at the Aboriginal People's Choice Music Awards in 2008, 4 singles go to #1 and his latest albums first single "Why Don't You Call," move up the Top 40 Regional Country chart on its way to #1.

Jack has owned and operated Unison Studios in Winnipeg for over 11 years and has had the pleasure of seeing some of Manitoba's and Canada's best artists record their albums there. He has also been the owner and President of Contact Artist Management for the past 6 years and has been the brains behind some of Manitoba's greatest musical talents. He has also been known to have played at least one instrument, but usually more, on almost every album he has produced over the past 10 years.

Jack is also an ongoing jury member over the years for Factor, CARAS/Junos, WCMA's, CCMA's, APCMA and Manitoba Film and Music as well as his local provincial music Association, Manitoba Music. He has written articles and blogs giving his opinions and insight into the music industry. He recently has made the foray into TV production and has had his first TV series optioned for development in the spring of 2012.

Throughout the years, Jack has held positions at Westsun Media (now Epic Productions) as a lighting tech, IATSE Local 63 as a stagehand and lighting tech. He has also had positions at CJOB AM68 Radio in Winnipeg as a recording engineer in the creative department and on air engineer. He has done local and regional advertising sales as well as writing creative for The A Channel (now City TV) and through his early experiences being around the theatre, he has designed and acted as lighting tech for various bands throughout Winnipeg. He has also used all his theatre experience to help train artists on the all-important aspects of stage performance and presence. Shapira's past experiences in all aspects of the arts, media and music, have made him one of the most knowledgeable and experience individuals involed the music industry in Manitoba and aboard.