

## GUEST SPEAKER



### **MIKE SHIELDS**

**Composer  
Calgary, AB**

Mike Shields crafts music with precision and intelligence. His melodies have grace, passion and hooks galore built around compelling lyrics. Part of his job is to record and perform these songs to a loyal following.

Mike also gets to score television shows and major feature films like GINGER SNAPS, 100 DAYS IN THE JUNGLE, and CRAZY CANUCKS. He gets to work with talented directors and create a mood for the audience, making the moving pictures even more memorable.

When he's not doing that, Mike is composing and performing jingles and music tracks for some of the most successful advertising campaigns in the country. He's helped sell you Fords, Toyotas and clothes from Mark's Work Wearhouse.

So how do you get Mike Shields' job? Actually through a helluva lot of hard work and a little luck. Mike has been a musician all his life, studying classical piano at the age of five. Raised by two music teachers, there was not shortage of knowledge and inspiration in his home.

In 1995, Mike released his debut CD, Grace Motel. Two singles charted nationally and his award-winning videos aired on CMT, MuchMusic and other shows like the Country Beat on CBC. Mike's television performances for the record included the Dini Petty Show, Global TV, City TV and many others. His second CD, Stranger Than Fiction was released across the country in 1999 to critical acclaim.

In addition to writing and performing his own songs, Mike started Jet Music Inc. that year and became the music director for Sync Spot Digital Audio Post in Calgary. Recently he has opened Jet Music Canada and become a partner in SoundProof (a commercial music company) in Toronto.

Since the release of his last record, the film bug has bitten hard and Mike's been scoring many feature film scores, television programs, and commercials - and winning several awards along the way.

While busier than ever with that side of his career and spare time is hard to come by, he's back at writing his own material and hard at work on his own screenplay - about, what else?, music. Visit Mike's web site at <http://www.mikeshields.com>