



press release

STACEY KENT BREAKFAST ON THE MORNING TRAM

Blue Note debut for the UK's top selling female jazz singer featuring lyrics from Booker Prize winning author Kazuo Ishiguro.

Long before he was a Booker Prize-winning novelist, the young **Kazuo Ishiguro** dreamt of being a songwriter. Now thanks to his friendship with **Stacey Kent** he has fulfilled his ambition, contributing four lyrics to songs on her **Blue Note** debut album **Breakfast on the Morning Tram**. Kent who is renowned as a sublime interpreter of the Great American Songbook and also counts the likes of **Clint Eastwood** and **Ian Mckellen** amongst her fans became friends with Ishiguro after the writer selected one of her songs on Desert Island Discs (Gershwin's They Can't Take that Away From Me). Flattered, Kent got in touch and a friendship developed when he contributed the liner notes to her 2002 album 'In Love Again'. Interestingly, Ishiguro has recently spoken of how Kent's work is nostalgia free how she looks at the past through a modern lense, much as he of course does in his own work such as Remains of the Day.

The result of this shared approach can be heard on Breakfast On The Morning Tram. Produced by Kent's husband and long-time musical partner and saxophonist **Jim Tomlinson**, the album is a charming collection of standards ("*Never Let Me Go*," "*What a Wonderful World*"), pop covers (*Stevie Nicks' "Landslide"*), French chansons (*Serge Gainsbourg's "Ces Petits Riens" & "La Saison des Pluies"*), as well fo course, for the first time in her recording career, original songs, co-written by Tomlinson and Kazuo Ishiguro. Already a smash hit in France where the album debuted at no 13 in the pop charts, BOTMT, released here on October 1st, is set to reinforce Kent's position as the most succesful female jazz singer on this side of the Atlantic with career sales fast approaching a million units, hefty sales by anyone's standard.

The album features Kent's new band featuring pianist **Graham Harvey**, guitarist **John Parricelli**, double bassist **Dave Chamberlain**, drummer/percussionist **Matt Skelton** and of course saxophonist **Jim Tomlinson**. "*I am very proud to present this first album with my new band. The last year has been one of exciting musical growth and I feel that we have captured that on this album.*" Indeed the album's sound is more open, more modern than on previous albums and as Kent herself says: '*I wanted to reveal more of myself on this album, in a way that I hadn't fully before*'. '*The subjects that I want to sing about have broadened. I am older and I have had more life experiences and so, naturally, I want to find a way to bring that into my music. I feel secure enough to be able to sing the songs that are quite simply 'me*'.

Stacey Kent Breakfast On The Morning Tram is released on Blue Note on October 1st And Stacey Kent plays Ronnie Scott's from November 1st – 3rd and she tours nationally in October (dates attached).

For more information, images or to arrange an interview please contact kerstan on 077756 55573 / 020 7193 0815 or email kerstan@riotsquadpublicity.com



Stacey Kent

Breakfast On The Morning Tram UK Tour Dates

Stacey Kent vocals, with pianist **Graham Harvey**, double bassist **Dave Chamberlain**, drummer/percussionist **Matt Skelton** and saxophonist **Jim Tomlinson**.

October 3	Concord Club Eastleigh
October 4	Epsom Playhouse
October 6	Radlett Centre, Radlett
October 10	Ramada Hotel, Bewdley Festival, Bewdley
October 27	Cinnamon Club, Altrincham Cheshire
October 28	Sonning Theatre, Sonning, Reading
November 1	Ronnie Scott's London
November 2	Ronnie Scott's London
November 3	Ronnie Scott's London
November 5	venue tbc Newcastle Under Lyme
November 6	venue tbc Chichester
November 10	Norwich Playhouse
November 15	Civic Theatre, Chelmsford

www.staceykent.com

