

First jazz CD from Mississauga's CD9 up for a Juno Award

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MISSISSAUGA — How do you score a nomination for best traditional jazz album at the Junos?

For Mississauga musicians William Carn and Tara Davidson, it was a simple formula: get some of your closest musical friends together, have them re-arrange some of your best songs and then head to the studio.

Carn and Davidson, who live in Lakeview, employed that formula to garner their recently-announced nomination for a Juno Award. The annual celebration of Canadian music takes place from March 24-30 in Winnipeg.

Of course, it helps a lot if your friends just happen to constitute an all-star lineup of horns who can deliver the chordless chamber jazz that the Mississauga couple had in mind to showcase their compositions in a more expansive setting.

The group, called CD9, consists of Kelly Jefferson on sax and flute, Perry White on baritone and bass clarinet, Jason Logue and Kevin Turcotte on trumpet and flugelhorn, Terry Promane on bass trombone and tuba, Carn on trombone, Davidson on alto and soprano sax and flute, Andrew Downing on bass and Fabio Ragnelli on drums.

"We love CD9 ... and we're so happy it came together as a concept — and then for a recording," Davidson said via e-mail.

Getting a Juno nomination on their first outing is just icing on the proverbial cake, Davidson said, especially when their CD is up against such stellar competition as John MacLeod and his Rex Hotel Orchestra, Toronto bassist Mike Downes, Phil Dwyer and Don Thompson and Vancouver's Ian MacDougall.

It's clearly a good year for large jazz ensembles.

CD9 was formed early in 2011 to re-imagine the compositions the couple had already recorded with their own solo groups on earlier CDs.

The smashing debut earned raves in the esteemed American jazz magazine, *Downbeat*, where reviewer Ken Micallef said: "There's no denying the bold moves and urban atmospheres created by the Carn/Davidson group."

Ironically, CD9 has been shut down for the past few months as trombonist Carn concentrates on his electric rock quartet Run Stop Run and saxophonist Davidson, a Brampton native, records a CD.

"The group has some gigs coming up this spring and we will have some new arrangements," says Davidson. "William and I continue to write music for smaller group formats and then they get considered for CD9. For us, I think the tune needs to get some legs first by being played in a quartet or quintet."

CD9 will perform June 4-5 at the Rex.

And there will "definitely" be another CD for CD9, although not likely for at least another year.



Mississauga musicians William Carn and Tara Davidson are up for a Juno Award for best traditional jazz album.