

Micah Sheveloff Just Needs One Thing: Someone There For Me

The Boston singer-pianist & the rock vocalist join forces on a tender ballad.

By

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Micah Sheveloff is looking for love (with the help of none other than Gary Cherone!) in his Randy Newmanesque jazz-pop ballad and video *Someone There For Me* — showcasing today on Tinnitist.

The song traces back to a friendship that began around 1984, when the singer-songwriter and **Extreme** frontman **Cherone** played together in Boston. The two stayed connected over the following decades, and in the fall of 2024, Cherone called Sheveloff with an idea: An *American Songbook*-style track that swings, one he had carried around as a demo for years and wanted to finally record. The plan was to cut it together with jazz musicians Sheveloff had worked with in the past, but touring behind **Extreme**'s album *Six* pushed the session back. In the meantime, Sheveloff fell in love with the song and built his own arrangement around it, one Cherone loved as much as the original.

Someone There For Me was co-written by Cherone and **Benny Golbin**, a respected jazz composer and teacher from Los Angeles who was killed in a road racing incident. Golbin's family has since started the **Benny Golbin Foundation**, which raises money to provide musical instruments and instruction to children.

Sheveloff reshaped the song considerably to make it his own, altering the tempo, adjusting the vocal melody to suit his own singing style and adding a bridge built on lush harmonies. The result blends classic jazz chord progressions with the pop sensibility he has honed over decades, with jazz guitarist **Nate Najar** contributing further colour to the recording.



Sheveloff is careful about how the collaboration gets framed. “I want to be mindful that we talk about my relationship with Gary for what it really is, a friendship developed across creative commonalities that led to an eventual collaboration later in life,” he says. Asked previously about that friendship, he put it this way: “I was young and had much more exposure to classical piano and choir than rock ‘n’ roll at the time. But Gary has a genuine appreciation for a broad

range of styles and genres, and that in itself helped bring down walls for me and turned me loose to write unabated by a false sense of lanes or boundaries.”

Someone There For Me sits among 12 tracks on Sheveloff’s album *Don’t You Wonder*, a record that draws from an unusually wide range of influences. Alongside songs like *City Bus* and *Tranquility*, the album moves through touchstones as varied as **Lyle Lovett**, **Herbie Hancock**, **David Baerwald**, **Cheap Trick** and **Brian Wilson**.

Raised in Lexington, Massachusetts and now based in Saint Petersburg, Florida, Sheveloff is a classically trained pianist whose background spans intense classical study and studio sessions supporting country, pop, rock and metal acts. Early in his career he shared stages around Boston with **The Detours**, **Something Outside** and **The Voodoo Jets**. He describes his own writing in vivid terms: “My songs are a breakfast hash made from memories of **Bartok** and **The Beatles**, ’70s pop songs and a touch of **Stravinsky**. I write songs to be accessible but with subtle complexities and compelling dark tones.”