



G. Love: Raspy soul-rocker's voice is back - and so is he

G. Love and Special Sauce play sold-out gig at Fox on Monday

By [Wendy Kale](#) ([Contact](#))

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G. Love, hold the Special Sauce.

BOULDER, Colo. — It's been a roller coaster of a year for Philly music pro G. Love.

The musician underwent major throat surgery after last summer's Red Rocks show and had to sit out the rest of 2008.

Now, Love's back in action with a sold-out concert at Boulder's Fox Theatre on Monday — and an upcoming songwriting session with Kid Rock.

Life is good for Love.

"I'm glad to be coming back to Colorado," Love said. "This is a place where people really love live music and come out to support it.

"That's why I wanted to come back here and play after my vocal chords healed."

Love's career has been on a steady rise since his first CD, *Back in the Day*, came out in 1993.

The blues/hip-hop performer and his band Special Sauce became known for tunes such as "Cold Beverage" and "Rodeo Clowns" – and records on Jack Johnson's Brushfire label.

Love's gravelly voice definitely put a lot of wear and tear on his vocal chords, so last year he had to undergo serious surgery.

"I've had to take time off from the road because I had injured my vocal chords," Love said. "Last year my vocal chords hemorrhaged and I kept re-injuring them. The varicose veins on my vocal chords just exploded!"

"One of the last shows I played was at Red Rocks. My vocal chords are doing really good now – after four months of resting them."

Fortunately, Love was able to release his 2008 CD, *Superhero Brother*, prior to his surgery.

Superhero Brother is the third CD that Love's released on Brushfire.

"The record came out last June or July," Love said. "It's basically a live recording that we did in the studio."

"I wanted this record to be more challenging and I wanted the subject matter to tell stories. I think *Superhero Brother* really shows that my guitar playing has stepped up and it showcases the band."

One of Love's favorite songs on the new CD is the inspirational "Peace Love and Happiness."

Love wrote the song after spending a day with children from the slums of Rio de Janeiro.

“We were in Rio and played for the kids in a community outreach program,” Love said. “The ghettos were heartbreaking, but we had such an uplifting day playing with the kids.

“I had to write about love and hope after seeing the kids’ faces. I wanted to write something simple and profound that had a positive message.”

Love’s had plenty of time to rest since the surgery, so he’s already working on his next record.

“The process has already begun for my next CD,” Love said. “I’ve been writing a lot of songs in the studio.”

Love also is getting ready to spend a few days writing tunes with Kid Rock.

“Kid Rock actually tried to get in touch with me when he made his first album,” Love said. “He wanted me to play harmonica on it – and it went on to sell 12 million copies!”

Flash forward to the present day.

Via a contact at a Boston show, Love was finally able to connect with Kid Rock.

Now the duo is set for an intense songwriting session in March.

“We’re not going to try to write a whole record, but one or two songs,” Love said. “We’re going to see what we come up with.

“We definitely share this hip-hop thing – and he shows a lot of love for the blues and rock. I think we could do something real rootsy.”

For now, Love’s back on the road and getting ready to play Monday’s show at the Fox.

“Playing the Fox is always fun for us,” Love said. “It’s a small, intimate room and it’ll be great to come back there.

“I heard the show’s already sold out. I think we’re going to try some new jams, play some older songs – and play songs off the new record.”