

Mark Kleinhaut Jazz Guitar



"Kleinhaut takes all kind of chances, swinging hard along the way. His ability to explore and create in the moment is undeniable. What sets him apart is his determination to keep the music original while at the same time having fun."
— jazzreview.com

"Kleinhaut favors a clean fluid sound, sometimes firing off rapid runs or, at other times holding notes and coaxing subtleties from the melodies he's composed...you find yourself using words like perfect and sublime because that's what your hearing."
—Paul Donnelly, ejazznews.com

"...a unique voice...a welcome and refreshing find indeed!"
—Ernie Pugliese, JazzImprov Magazine

"...unapologetic, genre-destroying, unflinchingly original music. Kleinhaut's music is a paradox in the respect that it is composed with a certain complexity that makes the music sound like it was created easily"
—C. Michael Bailey, alaboutjazz.com

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- ◆ Albany NY based jazz guitarist with thirty years experience.
- ◆ Performs with many top regional players including Dan Faulk, John Menegon, Joe Barna and Mike Benedict
- ◆ Six CD releases including recordings with Bobby Watson (5-time Downbeat critic poll winner and Jazz Messenger alum) and Tiger Okoshi (Department Chair Berklee School of Music)
- ◆ Understands promotion, publicity, and audience development

Mark Kleinhaut is an accomplished jazz guitarist known for his elegant melodic improvisations, striking technical execution and responsive accompaniment. In 2013 Kleinhaut was recognized with an entry in Scott Yanow's new book The Great Jazz Guitarists, The Ultimate Guide published by Backbeat Books, and was honored to be included. During Kleinhaut's thirty year career he has delved deeply into the standard repertoire, explored his taste for modern and forward sounds, and incorporates a myriad of influences. Mark looks for the spontaneous composition within the composition, and feels a jazz group's arranging on the fly is one of the most inspiring and magical experiences in music. Additionally, Kleinhaut relishes the opportunity to create original pieces. He has over 60 recorded compositions spanning six CDs released on the Invisible Music label, including a Jazzweek Top 20 disc with saxophonist Bobby Watson and another album with trumpeter Tiger Okoshi. His latest project, *Jones Street*, a guitar duo with 7-string player Neil Lamb, was spontaneously composed, utilizing motifs from classical, jazz, and folk music in a completely "free" setting.

Kleinhaut is currently in Albany New York where he has been active performing with Dan Faulk, John Menegon, Harvey Sorgen, Joe Barna, Mike Benedict and many others. During his career Kleinhaut has also performed and recorded with Bobby Watson, Tiger Okoshi, Greg Abate, Jerry Bergonzi, Bill Pierce, Sheyvonne Wright, Alex Foster,

Jackie King, and Scott Reeves. Kleinhaut has also had the good fortune to play his music in Europe and Cuba, and to play a Pops concert entitled *Bravo Broadway* at the Blossom Summer Music Festival with the Cleveland Orchestra.

For nearly 20 years, Mark Kleinhaut lived near Portland, Maine where he led his own group with Jim Lyden and Les Harris Jr. and Mark Macksoud, which was the platform for his recording and performing collaborations with Bobby Watson and Tiger Okoshi. Kleinhaut also appeared frequently with local legend Brad Terry, and was a member of the composers' collective the Orion Ensemble, which included Scott Reeves, Steve Grover, Scott Oakley and Sam Sherry. His tenure in Maine was also notable for his activism; he served as the president of the Maine Jazz Alliance (MJA) for three years. Kleinhaut was instrumental in bringing a long list of jazz luminaries to Southern Maine and live jazz to thousands of school children through MJA's *Jazz Goes to School* program. He also served on the boards of the Maine Jazz Festival, Maine Jazz Camp and the Advisory Board of the University Of Southern Maine School Of Music, where he was an adjunct faculty member for one year. Additionally, Kleinhaut has taught privately, and conducted clinics and workshops at Universities and public schools, including Bowdoin College and the University of Maine.

www.markkleinhaut.com
jazz guitar

Mark Kleinhaut is an endorser for the Halfling Jazz Guitar by Ribbecke Guitars