



Jamie Findlay

Jamie Findlay began playing guitar at the age of 8. He has performed in almost all types of music; pop, country western, swing, jazz, Brazilian, or latin, folk, classical.

He's played with Frank Sinatra Jr, Dan Seals, Dash Crofts, and Red Grammer; has recorded with Buddy Childers, Tierney Sutton, Steve Huffstetter, the Acoustic Jazz Quartet, a group started with the other members in the mid 90's, among others.

He has traveled and performed in Europe, South East Asia, Brazil, China, Japan, Central America, and in most of the US. He is an active music educator having given guitar workshops all over the world, with several years at USC, and is currently an instructor at Musicians Institute in Hollywood.

Jamie has also written 6 books on music, and has 2 instructional videos published by Hal Leonard/Star Licks.

An extensive roster of persons with whom performed has been accumulated, including:

Harvey Mason
Robben Ford
Frank Sinatra, Jr
Tex Benake Big Band
Dave Coz
Everett Harp
John B. Williams
Norman Brown
Ndugu Chancelor
Alphonse Mouzon
Eric Marianthol
Bob Magnusson

Alex Acuña
Russell Ferrante
Brian Bromberg
Dash Crofts
Greg Vail
Emil Richards
Tower of Power
John Clayton Jr.
Shelly Berg
Joe Diorio
Scott Henderson
Ron Eschete

Buddy Childers
Larry Koonse
Steve Bailey
Tony Gurrero
Howard Roberts
Cathy Segal Garcia
John Barnes
O.C. Smith
Dave Carpenter
Plaz Johnson
Carl Fontana
Putter Smith
Jeff Berlin

David Sills



Chosen as an L.A. Times “Best Bet”, David is making a name for himself as one of the finest young jazz musicians in the L.A. area. “It was soon apparent that Sills, 26, is not your usual young saxophonist. His airy well-pitched sound carries hints of Stan Getz and Lester Young, and he plays with a patience that speaks of maturity. He goes straight to the heart of a lyric, forgoing the flashy excess of youth, developing the story line during his solos with touches of warm melodicism and the occasional flurry of notes.”- Bill Kolhase In the L.A. Times

David’s commitment to the integrity of the music is shown in his Naxos Jazz Compact Disk, *Journey Together*, featuring jazz giants Alan Broadbent, Darek Oles, Joe LaBarbara and Larry Koonse. This thoughtful and swinging album shows David to be a talented arranger, expert bandleader and inspired soloist. David’s first album, *Hanging Five* debuted to critical acclaim in 1997. And David has done it again with a fabulous new CD called *Bigs*, also on the Naxos label. This one features the same band as ‘*Journey Together*’ and is available in all of the usual locations.

“a meeting of Stan Getz and Joe Henderson, a style in which smooth reserve and technical ability combine in a single cool-to-the bone sound.”

- LA Times

Zac Matthews



A native of Great Britain, now residing in Los Angeles, Zac Matthews is making fast work of an exciting career in the West Coast's burgeoning Jazz community. He has performed with such jazz greats as Don Menza, Pete Christlieb, Bill Watrous, Henry Mancini, Bobby Shew, Marvin Stamm, Bud Shank, Rob McConnell, Marcus Printup, Nancy King and Don Shelton among others. Zac is frequently in the LA recording studios, leading to recordings for such estimable record companies as Motown, Columbia and Sony and for film and TV.

Zac credits study with John Clayton, Christopher von Bayer, Ray Brown, François Rabbath and Paul Ellison as the biggest influences in his development as well as having the opportunity to work directly with the likes of Branford, Wynton and Ellis Marsalis, James Moody, John Heard, Phil Woods, Howard Roberts, Milt Jackson, Mel Lewis, Dennis Irwin, Hal Galper and many others.

With Bass Performance and Music theory/History degrees from Washington State University and a Masters degree in Jazz Studies from the University of Southern California Zac's command and knowledge of music bursts forth in inspired improvisations, creative arrangements and a deep respect for the music's heritage and future. Add to this a generous dose of travel, study and teaching across Europe with a keen interest in history, philosophy and art and you'll find a well rounded musician.

Honored in Down Beat, Jazziz, Cadence, Victory Review and numerous newspaper features, Zac was also recognized as the outstanding WSU Music Senior (Presser Scholar) and USC's Outstanding Jazz Studies Graduate student.

Zac has been very involved with education working with numerous aspiring musicians in workshops, clinics and private lessons. Zac currently teaches at Pasadena City College and at Cal Poly Pomona. He has taught at USC, the Los Angeles Music Academy., the Bud Shank's Jazz Workshop, Frank DeMiero's Jazz Camp, Burton Music Camp, Whitman College, Columbia Basin Jazz Festival, Bellevue Jazz Festival, the University of Idaho Jazz Festival, the British Columbia Interior Jazz Festival and was the Director of Burton Jazz Camp near Seattle, Washington. Zac has lectured on Jazz, Jazz history and other subjects in Washington, Oregon and California.



Dean Koba

Dean Koba is originally from Honolulu, Hawaii. His studies led him to Illinois where he earned his Bachelor of Music in percussion performance from Northwestern University. Dean received his Master's Degree in Music at the University of Southern California (USC) where he was a graduate assistant in the Jazz studies department teaching jazz history and private drumset instruction. Dean studied privately with Jeff Hamilton, Joe Labarbera, and Greg Field.

Dean has had the opportunity to work with many different musical artists such as: The Acoustic Jazz Quartet, Kei Akagi, Benny Bailey, Shelly Berg, Jeff Berlin, Bayou Brass Band, Carmen Bradford, Cecelia Coleman, Jeff Clayton, John Clayton, Bill Cunliffe, Dee Daniels, Jamie Findlay, Gary Foster, Roberta Gaborini, Fareed Haque, Tamir Hendelman, Larry Koonse, Christoph Luty Quintet, Bill Mays, Walter Norris, Makoto Ozone, Bob Sheppard, Greg Reitan, Bud Shank, and Dave Sills.

He has lived in Europe several times studying abroad and performing in Italy, Denmark, and Germany. While in Hamburg, Germany, Dean performed for the musicals "Cats" and "Beehive". He also toured Europe with various jazz groups.

Dean currently resides in Long Beach, California. He freelances in the greater Los Angeles area performing weekly with the Bayou Brass Band at Disneyland and also teaches percussion at Long Beach City College.

Dean Koba plays Gretsch Drums, Paiste Cymbals, Gibraltar hardware, Aquarian Drumheads, and Regal Tip sticks & brushes.