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Christian Rover

Guitarist / Composer / Teacher

Christian Rover has toured in the USA, Japan, China, Israel and throughout Europe. His own CDs and numerous other recordings demonstrate his unique musical talent, both as a solo artist and a sideman. After a long stint in the USA, he is now making a name for himself on the international music scene. A summa cum laude graduate of Berklee College Of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, Rover captured first prize at DOWNBEAT'S "Music Fest USA" and was awarded the Joe Zawinul Award for outstanding achievements in music synthesis.



Rover has performed and recorded with such jazz greats as Pee Wee Ellis, Rhoda Scott, Houston Person, Gary Campbell, George Garzone, John Zorn, Piotr Baron, Piotr Wojtasic and many others. He has worked in a variety of styles including Tango with Cesar Olguin, Reggae with Gregory Isaacs, Gospel, original loopbased music with Raetus Fleisch or the Yumikonian Orchestra. He has played with Wolfgang Engstfeld, Peter Weiss, Emil Mangelsdorf or presented his version of the Bach Goldberg Variations for three electric guitars at the International Bachfest. His own projects reach from solo performances with live looping to Hammond Organ Trios to varied settings and big band projects such as the "Far East Far Out Orchestra". He has recorded and performed his own music with Skuli Sverrisson, Matt Garrison, Jaromir Honzak, Dan Rieser among others.

Christian Rover is also in great demand as a teacher. Over the past 10 years he has taught at Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts (USA), Leipzig Conservatory of Music (Germany), the University of Graz (Austria), the Conservatory of Music in Weimar (Germany) and others. He has also given numerous workshops all over the globe. For many years he has been publishing interviews with guitar greats such as Jim Hall, Pat Metheny or John Scofield and written instructional articles for publications such as Gitarre & Bass, Musiker, Fachblatt, European Musician, Mix and Sticks.

Reactions from critics and fellow musicians:

"Superb jazz guitarist."
SOUNDCHECK

"Christian is a guitar virtuoso and a multi-faceted jazz musician who can also play blues, fusion and rock with the best of them."
GITARRE & BASS

"Vast talents... very individual. Christian has his own voice...
a voice which deserves to be heard !"
STEVE KHAN

"A very original musician."
JOHN ABERCROMBIE

"His playing is excellent and thoughtful."
DAVE LIEBMAN

"A pioneer of live looping."
NZZ

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Workshop Topics

Timing & Polyrhythm In Jazz And Popular Music

Lecture for all instruments with many listening examples, practical exercises and handouts (2x2 hours min.)

Interplay

Examination of interactive band concepts throughout the history of jazz. With the help of listening examples (Miles Davis Quintet, James Brown to Weather Report and many others) and actual performance students will develop skills in the improvisational use of form, sound and texture, the use and role of the rhythm section and much more. Student band required. (2x2 hrs.)

Guitar Master Class

Harmony, voicings, working on standard tunes, creative concepts in comping and improvisation (Actual topics depend on level and interest of students and should be discussed in advance to provide appropriate handouts) (2-5 hrs.)

Hammond Organ Trio Workshop

Introduction to the popular trio format with hammond organ, guitar and drums with special attention to its history, special demands, the instruments and their function. Students will join the band. In connection with local concerts or tour in close proximity.

Guitar Trio Workshop

Presentation/concert of original trio concepts employing real-time sampling, polyrhythmic interplay, free improvisation as well as traditional guitar trio playing

Guitar Ensemble

Three to five guitars with rhythm section. Rehearsal and performance of various original and standard tune arrangements from mainstream to contemporary and easy to challenging. (Charts provided by Christian Rover)

Jazz Master Class

Performance by or with individual students or student ensembles is used to exercise constructive criticism on issues such as improvisation, time, comping, stylistic and aesthetic and historic considerations. For all instruments, actual topics and focus depend on level, background and interest of students.

Jazz For Classically Trained Musicians

Open format presentation/concert introducing the history, basic elements and advanced aspects of jazz as a serious and fun art form. Preferably with own band or mixed media lecture.

Private Instruction / Ensemble Coaching

Jazz and popular music all levels

Teaching languages are English or German (basic knowledge in French and Spanish). Christian Rover is interested in performing with local teachers and musicians or advanced students. Duo, Big Band, no stylistic prejudice, open to any good idea...

