

THE CRANE & FABIAN PROJECT

BIOS



Eric Marienthal started playing his saxophone in 5th grade, and since has performed in over 60 different countries, recording 10 solo CD's and played on hundreds of other records, films, television shows and commercial jingles. Eric studied at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA with the legendary saxophone teacher Joe Viola. In 1995, he was awarded the Berklee Distinguished Alumnus Award for Outstanding Achievements in Contemporary Music. In 1980, Eric played with Al Hurt and his band, and when the band ended Eric returned to LA, where a spot opened up in the Disneyland Band. When Chick Corea was looking to add a sax player to his famed Elektric Band, he asked Eric to join the Band.



Mike Miller is known as a “guitarist’s guitarist” and is one of the most sought-after and respected players in Los Angeles. Miller’s resume includes his current stint as a member of Bette Midler’s all-star band in Las Vegas, Chick Corea, George Duke, Vinnie Colaiuta, Yellowjackets, Brand X, Peter Erskine, Gino Vanelli, Burton Cummings, Mark Mothersbaugh and many others. Miller is one of L.A.’s hidden gems, with the ability to play multiple styles and in almost any setting.” – Tom Meek – LAJazz.com



Mitchel Forman was born in Brooklyn, NY and began studying classical piano at age 7. After graduating from Manhattan School of Music he began touring and recording with Gerry Mulligan—work with Stan Getz followed. In 1980 he played solo at the Newport Jazz Festival, and the recording became his first album, “Live at Newport”. He played with Phil Woods, Carla Bley, Mel Torme, and Astrud Gilberto, recorded two solo piano albums for Soul Note and toured in Europe. In the early 80’s, he joined John McLaughlin’s Mahavishnu, contributing to “Mahavishnu” and “Adventures in Radioland”. He then joined saxophonist Wayne Shorter, touring, recording and contributing to Shorter’s “Phantom Navigator”. He then formed his own band and recorded “Train of Thought” for Windham Hill, and also played with John Scofield, Mike Stern, Janis Siegal, Dave Samuels, Diane Schuur, Gary Burton, Pat Metheny, Wayne Shorter, Simon Phillips, Freddie Hubbard, Bill Evans, and Ricki Lee Jones. Mitch’s own record label, “Marsis Jazz” has released 3 albums. He co-leads the band Metro, which has released six albums, with guitarist Chuck Loeb, and his quartet tours annually in Europe.



Lance Crane, born in Queens New York, was recently awarded Best Jazz Artist by The Hollywood Music Awards in 2008 and 2009, and producer of the year by LA Music awards (2007). In 2003 Lance was a finalist in the world's fastest drum competition at MI, filmed for Extreme Sports. Lance started playing drums when he was 5, when he studied with Jerry Rici, founder of The Long Island Drum Center. He later studied with Zoro, Greg Bissonette and Ed Shaughnessy.



Christian Fabian was born in Sweden, and before receiving his scholarship at Berklee in Boston, he studied at Maastricht Conservatory in The Netherlands. Lionel Hampton hired him in 1996, and he is a co-founder of the new Lionel Hampton Big Band featuring Jason Marsalis and as co-leader of The Native Jazz Quartet, also with Jason Marsalis, he toured for the US State Department in 2013 and 2014. In New York he plays with Mike Longo's NY State of the Art Jazz Ensemble and around the metro area. He has performed with Jimmy Owens, Gary Burton, Lewis Nash, Elvin Jones, Cheryl Bentley, Chaka Khan, Jon Hendricks and many others. His compositions earned two awards and three nominations with Hollywood Music in Media in 2008 and 2009. His duo with ukelele star Herb Otha produced the Japanese hit CD Stardust 4 Strings on JVC. Christian's band Fabian Zone Trio has released six CDs since 2006 and reached #1 on Music Choice, Top 10 on Jazz Radio for Canada and Top 20 on Jazz Week 3 times.