

Mike



Allen

Doug Fischer, jazz columnist for the Ottawa Citizen, calls the 46 year-old Vancouver-based saxophonist, pianist and composer "the country's top jazz saxophonist" in a recent review in which his seventh album Love One Another was chosen "#1 Canadian Jazz Album of 2005". Jazz Journal International refers to Mike as "an accomplished musician who has studied Coltrane in depth and forged a style that is fresh and vital".

Mike Allen is profiled in Miller Companion to Jazz in Canada and earned a Master's In Jazz from New York University. He has worked with internationally recognized players including Cedar Walton, Julian Priester, Kenny Wheeler, Peter Leitch, Gary Bartz, Jim Snidero, Brian Lynch, Chuck Israels, Donald Bailey, Ali Jackson, Seamus Blake, and Pete Magadini. Mike was a member of Canadian guitar legend Sonny Greenwich's band from 1990 to 1995. His playing is featured on Greenwich's Standard Idioms (Kleo) and Fragments Of A Memory (Cornerstone). In 1993, Canada's national newspaper, The Globe and Mail listed Mike as one of a half-dozen "Interesting Canadians To Watch". These days he performs primarily on the West Coast, with occasional regional and national tours, and is regularly featured on nationally aired CBC radio broadcasts. Fearless, Allen's 2004 release was chosen by Public Radio International jazz host Jim Wilke, as one of the "Best Pacific Northwest Jazz CDs of 2004", while his 2003 trio album Dialectic won "Outstanding Jazz Recording 2003" at the Western Canadian Music Awards. Mike has received prestigious Arts Council grants over the years to study with tenor giants Joe Henderson, Joe Lovano and Dave Liebman. In the tradition of his musical mentors, Mike's groups perform original and classic jazz repertoire with a focus on lyricism, swing and cohesive group interaction,

Current MIKE ALLEN QUARTET personnel includes:

Miles Black-piano/guitar, Adam Thomas-bass/voice, Julian MacDonough-drums

Discography

- Chris Davis A Night Remembered Cellar Live CL010807 (2008)
- Mike Allen Quartet Vancouver Almus ALM 14302 (2007)
- Mike Allen & George McFetridge Threads Almus ALM 14202 (2007)
- Mike Allen Quartet Love One Another Almus ALM 14062 (2005)
- Mike Rud Live From Lotusland Cellar Live CL 041605 (2005)
- Mike Allen Trio With George McFetridge Fearless Almus ALM 12552 (2004)
- Mike Allen Trio Dialectic Almus ALM 11092 (2003)
- Jill Townsend Big Band Tales From The Sea Pagetown PTC0-001 (2003)
- Dave Robbins At The Mark Independent (2002)
- Various Artists Live At The Cellar Maximum-7101 (2001)
- Sonny Greenwich Fragments Of A Memory Cornerstone CD 116 (2001)
- Mike Allen Change Is Maximum CD-0065 (2000)
- Bruce Nielsen Band Up For The Count BN-03 (2000)
- Mike Allen One Side Of A Circle Almus CD-003 (1999)
- Mike Allen One Step Closer Almus CD-002 (1997)
- Christine Duncan Live at the Vogue CDCD-01 (1997)
- Kathy Kidd Yemaya Suite Low Rider Records CD-0044 (1996)
- Mike Allen Quintet/Quartet Almus CD-001 (1995)
- Pete Magadini On Drums (Then To Now) Justin Time JTR 8447-2 (1992)
- Sonny Greenwich Standard Idioms Kleo CD-001 (1991)
- Vikrama Experience (Live In Montreal) Unity CD-135 (1990)
- Pete Magadini Quintet Night Dreamers Timeless SJP 317 (1989)
- Vikrama Hands On Unity CD-105 (1988)