

Daren Burns

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PROFILE

I am a fretless, electric bass player, interested in composition and improvisation, especially combining the two to create new musical structures. I have studied Jazz improvisation, "Free" improvisation, and the improvisation of Northern India in my musical quest. Today, at the instruments 55th, year mark, I seek to legitimize the electric bass as an instrument of real expression, rather than the bastard/stepchild-like treatment, it is usually greeted with in most circles.

EXPERIENCE

Solo Bass work w/ electronics

Played at the Y2K5 Looping Festival in Santa Cruz and Nova Express, here in Los Angeles,

MFA Mid-Residence Recital.

Spring 2007, I wrote and performed all original music. With Damian Berdakin, Scott Collins, Sarah Phillips, Ingo Deul, Ian Carroll, Tyler Yamin, Ori Barel, and Wadada Leo Smith

World Ambient Symphony

Improvisation group with Matt Piper and Koorosh Daryaie. We have been playing at Pasadena's, Poo-Bah Records every month for about a year and a CD will be released by the end of the year on the Poo-Bah record label.

Chris Opperman's Special Opp's

The pianist's west coast, Zappa-esque group with Frank Macchia, Andre LaFosse, Craig Bunch, David Gaziel, Chris Spilsbury, and Jen Kuhn. Recorded 1 CD at The Mothership (Steve Vai's studio) with Neil Citron engineering.

Neil Sadler Group

Progressive Jazz group. Included the first reunion of Mike Keneally, Bruce Fowler, and Kurt McGettrick, since Frank Zappa's infamous 1988, tour breakup.

Ishmael Wadada Leo Smith's Odwira

A piece for 12 multi-ensemble units, that was performed at the California Institute of the Arts in March, 1995. I was part of the "Guitar Ensemble" with Miroslav Tadic, Nels Cline, Adam Lane, Jeremy Keller, and Jamie Rosen.

Butch Morris' SLANG

Performed as part of Butch's Conduction band at the Redcat theatre in downtown LA. Conduction is improvised conducting

Saturday Night At Grossingers

Musical theatre show I performed in 2005 at Theatre West in Studio City. Starring Barry Pearl and Barbara Minkus. The show ran for 4 months.

John Pieplow

Recorded 1 CD and also recorded the soundtrack to the pilot for the Lorne Michaels produced, NBC show, "Sons and Daughters".

David Michael Frank

Charity event performing selections from "Grease". With Shaun Cassidy and Jill Jackson (Paula from the singing duo Paul and Paula which sang the classic 50's song "Hey Paula")

Steve Apple-The Rat Pack

A tribute to the Rat Pack by Direct from Vegas Productions. Playing songs by Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, and Dean Martin.

Dark Numbers

Current experimental improvisation group I co-lead with percussionist, Koorosh Daryaie. We have done shows in the Bay Area, and are in the process of recording a CD.

Brandy Repairs Utah

Improvisation group, which includes the words of Lyle Tharp and the music of Koorosh Daryaie and myself.

Neon Venus

Latin pop group that toured Italy, Spain, Egypt, and Turkey in the fall of 2004. Filmed a video documenting the tour and it aired on MTV Espanol a few times.

muzzleLoader

Hard rock band which I wrote, performed and recorded with for about 4 years. W/ Trey Creager, Yasha Philips, and Lyle Tharp. We completed 1 CD, "The Not So Secret Lives of Bobby Scorpio", and one EP, with Marty Beal engineering/co-producing.

JS Bach Experience

A rock tribute to Europe's greatest composer, w/ Theo Mordey, Kevin Kmetz, and Adam Keeney. LA Weekly's pick of the week and we recorded 1 CD entitled, "A Rock Tribute".

Eleanor Academia Band

Pop/Rock band w/ this singer, keyboardist, and Phillipine Kulingtang master.

LXIX

Alternative rock band, in which I played, arranged, and recorded 1 CD's worth of material. We also played many shows around the LA area.

Sounds of Paradise

Reggae/Calypso band with steel drum player, Brad Winchell. We played many shows around the Southern California area.

Isoceles Jazz Trio

Played at the club, "Bobby London", in Koreatown 3 nights a week for 6 months. Rotating members included, Atsuki Inoue, John DePatie, Andrea Miller, and Kayo Yoshida.

DJ ²

Back-up band, which included, Darren Ross, John DePatie, and Jon Dunmore. We played, backing up various singers such as Mauro & Eye.

Plus, many, many more....

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Privately from home since 1997, and at Woodlowe Music Store in Woodlnd Hills, since 1999

TEACHING COMPETENCIES

Bass Guitar, all styles, Music Theory, Ear-training, Improvisation, Jazz History, Rock History.

EDUCATION

California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA 2006-08
MFA, (currently enrolled)

California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA 1994-97

BFA

Fullerton Junior College, Fullerton, CA 1991-94

Transferred

Musicians Institute, Hollywood, CA 1989-90

Certificate

Private Instruction:

Gary Willis, Jeff Berlin, Baba Elephante, Dave Carpenter, Alphonso Johnson, Wadada Leo Smith, Vinny Golia, Alope Dutta, Todd Johnson, Putter Smith, Jim Lacefield, Aashish Khan, and Charlie Haden.

AWARDS

3rd place in the Dan Radlauer composition competition 1994

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Professional Musicians Union, Local 47

ASCAP

American Composers Forum

PUBLICATIONS

Wrote Bass Secrets article for Garageband Music Paper, 1999

SKILLS

Music: Bass guitar, fretless, 5 string, 6 string, Electric Upright, bass synth, drum machine programming, sequencing (Logic Pro, Ableton Live), audio editing (Bias Peak), simple synthesis, basic recording, composition, improvisation, arranging, musical director, transcribing,

Computer: PC and Mac knowledgeable, web design, HTML programming, Word, Excel, Dreamweaver, Front-page, Powerpoint, Photoshop,

HOBBIES

Watching movies, especially Monty Python, Christopher Guest, and 1960' Japanese films. Reading, especially anything by John Steinbeck, Harlan Ellison, and Japanese Kwaidan stories.

REFERENCES

Available upon request