

ARTIST BIO:

DAREN HOWARD BURNS, fretted and fretless electric bass player, composer, and improviser who's musical interest lies in the area of improvisation, integration of musical styles, superimposition of metric and non-metric musical phrases, and how to make new systems for developing improvisation. In the past few years he has also become interested in North and South Indian rhythmic and melodic systems. He started **Urban Nerds Records** in 2009 and has since released 5 titles including one with **Wadada Leo Smith** and the most recent is with his band **Onibaba** entitled *Disintegration os Secrets/Apparitions of Kings* with veteran woodwind player Vinny Golia.

As an Improviser/Composer Burns has studied, Western European music, the classical music of North and South India, Ghana music of Africa, Japanese, Eastern European/Arabic music, and American Blues, Rock, and Jazz. He is working on notation systems that incorporate world music and jazz and open structures that give the musician freedom while also giving the composer his realized ideas.

He has written for soloists, various ensembles, and creative orchestras and as a performer he has shared the stage with Wadada Leo Smith, John 'Drumbo' French, Ulrich Krieger, Neil Sadler, Butch Morris, Mike Keneally, Nels Cline, Vinny Golia, Jeff Kaiser, Motoko Honda, Don Famoudou Moye, John Lindberg, Ori Barel, Chris Opperman, Andre LaFosse, John Bergamo, Randy Gloss, Miroslav Tadic, Len 'Boogsie' Sharp, Kurt McGettrick, Bruce Fowler, Frank Macchia, and many others.

Born in El Centro, California, but moving all around as child, to places like New Mexico, Texas, and the Los Angeles metropolitan area. Burn's musical life began in Junior High School when he purchased his first bass with money from a paper route he had. At this time, he was immersed in the rock music of the time, but was quickly turned on to jazz by purchasing bassists, Jaco Pastorius and Stanley Clarke's first albums and classical Indian music by listening to Ravi Shankar. He received his formal education from Fullerton junior College (1991-1994), California Institute of the Arts (1994-97, BFA; 2006-08, MFA). He also studied privately with Wadada Leo Smith, Ralph Rose, Baba Elefante, Gary Willis, Alope Dutta, Aashish Khan, Vinny Golia, and Jeff Berlin.

Committed to education, Daren has taught privately for over ten years and has helped facilitate workshops in the US and Mexico. He is a member of the American Composers Forum, American Music Center, and an ASCAP member.