

Mike Nock Touring Highlights

Along with his current CD releases as leader (Not We But One - Naxos Jazz 86006 - trio, Ozboppin' - Naxos Jazz 86019 - quintet, The Waiting Game - Naxos Jazz 8608, duo with the multi-instrumentalist Marty Ehrlich) pianist Mike Nock can be heard on the New York Jazz Collective's latest 'Everybody Wants to go to Heaven' showcasing his compositions and is also featured on Gordon Brisker's CD 'My Son John'. Several recent CD re-releases also feature him, including Yusef Lateef's 1984 and Live at Peps - Vol I & II, John Handy Concert Ensemble's 'Projections', Dave Liebman's 'The Opal Heart' and Steve Marcus/Larry Coryell's 'Count's Rock Band'.

His group The Fourth Way, regrouping after a thirty-year hiatus, were featured at a recent San Francisco Jazz Festival and in 1999 the Mike Nock Quintet made their second tour of major Canadian jazz festivals. Earlier that year his quartet toured New Zealand and in November 1998 he led an international quintet on an extensive seventeen concert tour of Australia (Nock Five For Jazz).

In June / July 1997 the Mike Nock Quartet toured Asia (Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, South Korea) on a 6 week, twenty five concert tour sponsored by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and that same year his group was featured on a highly successful Australia/Japan friendship concert with top Japanese trumpeter Terumasa Hino at Sydney Town Hall.

In February 1997 he premiered his composition 'Pandora Was No Lady' with the Cleveland Chamber Symphony (USA) and in May 2000 his composition 'Timelines' featuring Indian percussionist Trilok Gurtu was performed at the Brisbane Biennale. His 'Environments' for string quartet and jazz group, was featured at the 1997 Sydney Festival and later the same month he appeared at the New Zealand Chamber Music Festival in a concert of his music played by the NZ String Quartet.

September 1996 saw him in Denmark and Finland, performing and recording his music with top Scandinavian musicians, including the Umo Jazz Orchestra and in June/July was a featured piano soloist at several major European jazz festivals (North Sea, Bremen, Munchner Klavier Sommer, Brussels, Metz). In March that year the New Zealand International Festival of the Arts presented his jazz quartet with the New Zealand String Quartet in a program of his compositions at the Wellington Town Hall, to a capacity audience.