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Michael Hernandez- BIOGRAPHY

Praised repeatedly by conductors and composers alike for his **elegant playing and singing tone quality**, Michael's audiences are continuously impressed with the **wide array of colors** that emerge from his soprano saxophone, ranging from the soft whisper of a flute, to the spinning sound of the oboe, and encompassing the remarkable upper register of a soaring violin.

Originally from Phoenix, Michael's performance career has taken him all over the world. He has been heard in concert halls throughout **Germany, Switzerland, Poland, France, Holland, Austria, Italy, the UK, Canada and the United States**. He has also been heard repeatedly on NPR's **Performance Today** the most-listened-to classical music radio show in America.

Michael has collaborated, performed with, and premiered works by some of today's most exciting composers and musicians including **Ellen Taaffe Zwilich**, Ola Gjeilo, Gregory Wanamaker, Walter Hartley, Enrico Chapela, Alan Theisen, John Leszczynski, Kevin Ames, Bernadette Peters and the **Calder String Quartet**.

During the 2007-08 and 2008-09 seasons, Michael was an on-call saxophonist for the **Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra**. Other orchestral appearances include performances with the Gulf Coast Sinfonia, the Hot Springs Festival Orchestra, **the Florida State University Orchestra**, the Syracuse University Orchestra and the Fredonia University Orchestra.

Michael remains extremely active as a chamber musician playing soprano saxophone in the critically acclaimed **Mana Quartet** and **Mana Trio**. In 2009, the Mana Quartet became the **first saxophone quartet** in history to take home the Grand Prize at the **International Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition**. Mana has been featured in multiple publications such as **Chamber Music America**, the Saxophone Journal, and the Los Angeles Times. In addition to performing concerts throughout Europe, Canada and the US, Mana has been invited to hold residencies at some of America's most prestigious orchestral festivals including **the Hot Springs Music Festival, National Music Festival and the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival**.

Michael has served on the faculties of the **State University of New York College at Fredonia** and the **Florida State University**. His own saxophone studies have included work with Wildy Zumwalt, Ronald Caravan, Patrick Meighan, Carina Rascher and the Rascher Saxophone Quartet.

Currently Michael resides in Phoenix, AZ where he teaches privately and serves as the Music Department Chair for the Desert Marigold Waldorf School.

Michael is a proud endorser of RooPads by **MusicMedic.com**. He plays on an historic Buescher saxophone (c. 1927) that was built according to the acoustical specifications of the instrument's inventor, Adolphe Sax.

Michael Hernandez- Solo Repertoire

*denotes work premiered by M. Hernandez

** denotes work dedicated to M. Hernandez saxophone & piano

Bach

Partita in A minor
Cello Suite No. 1

Britten

Six Metamorphoses after Ovid

Caravan

Echoes of a Crimson Twilight*
Fantasy Piece

Cockroft

KuKu

Chateveaux

Jaunt**

DeMars

Seventh Healing Song

Gates

Incantation and Ritual

Glaser

Drei Sonaten im Alten Still

Glass

13 Melodies

Martin

Dark Places for Soprano Saxophone*

Piazzolla

Tango Etudes

Rushton

Concoction of a Charleton

Scelsi

Tre Pezzi

Telemann

Twelve Fantasias

Theisen

Two Forms of Insomnia for Soprano
Sax **

von Koch

Monolog 4

Zabel

Echoes of Light

Michael Hernandez- Saxophone & Orchestra

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** denotes work dedicated to M. Hernandez

Soprano Saxophone

Ames

Tristia**

Bach

Suite in B minor

Glaser

Konzert

Mackey

Concerto with Wind Orchestra

Massenet

Meditation from Thais

Mozart

Concerto K314

Piazzolla

Oblivion

Villa-Lobos

Fantasia

Alto Saxophone

Glazunov

Concerto in Eb

Ibert

Concertino da Camera

Larsson

Konzert

Whitney

Adagio and Samba

Michael Hernandez- Saxophone & Piano

*denotes work premiered by M. Hernandez

** denotes work dedicated to M. Hernandez

Aho

Sonata

Ames

Tristia**

Bach

Sonata in E minor
Sonata in Eb Major
Sonata in G minor
Suite in B minor

Badings

La Malinconia

Caravan

Sonata

Demersseman

Fantasie et Pastorale

Dressel

Partita

Franck

Sonata in A Major

Genzmer

Sonata for Soprano Saxophone

Gjeilo

River*

Glaser

Allegro Cadenza e Adagio

Hartley

Diversions

Kox

Sonata

Kreisler

Praeludium and Allegro

Leroux

SPP

Leszczynski

Almost out of the Sky**

Massenet

Meditation from Thais

Platti

Sonata in G minor

Poulenc

Sonata

Schumann

Three Romances

Terzakis

Der Holle Nachklang I

Villa-Lobos

Fantasia

Vivaldi

Sonata in G minor

von Knorr

Sonata

von Koch

Danse Nr. 2

von Onna
Crystal Dreams

Zwilich
Episodes