

RICK KELLER : BIOGRAPHY
www.futuresax.com

RICK KELLER continues to explore and develop his musical voice. Both , a sought after sideman and an artist composing and pursuing his own projects define the commitment to creative expression so vital to Rick. He has been constantly inspired by music from many countries as a result of concerts and recordings including Ghanaian master drummer Kofi Misiso, tabla master Trilok Gurtu and countless other international musicians. The beauty of music from exotic lands remains an inspiration for Rick to constantly write new music for a variety of instrumentation and style influences. Rick has a unique personal style to express the emotion created while he performs with his group. 17 years as a young saxophonist living in central Europe resulted in an impressive list of credits both live and recording. Some of the most notable musicians Rick has performed alongside include: Billy Cobham, Joe Sample, Trilok Gurtu, Zakir Hussain, Benny Bailey, Al Porcino, Claudio Roditi, George Russel, Charlie Mariano, Chaka Kahn, Bill Bruford, Natalie Cole, Steve Ferrone , Jon Lord.

In 2002 Rick made his US debut in Los Angeles becoming acquainted with the L.A. jazz scene, and revealed a healthy and deeply established community of some of the worlds finest musicians. Recent releases featuring Rick on Alto, Tenor, Soprano sax and flute include: Geoff Stradling Less is Mo Chris Walden "Home of my heart" Origin. John Rangel Morning Pages, Steve Huffsteter Live at the Café 322. Los Angeles is the home of several world renown big bands which is also a part of Rick's itinerary. He was lead alto saxophonist with Bill Holman for 4 years. 2009 saw Rick touring South America with Christopher Cross. Steve Huffsteter, Bennie Maupin, Buddy Childers, Carl Saunders, Bob McChesney, Art Davis, Al Mckibbon, Joe La Barbera, Lanny Morgan, Pete Christlieb, Herman Riley, David Benoit, Wayne Bergeron, Ric Fierabracci, John Rangel, Nick Manson. Concert appearances include: Ronnie Scott's London, North Sea Jazz Festival, Blue Note Tokyo, Bratislava Jazz Festival, Burghausen Jazz Festival, Expo 98 Lisbon, Leverkusen Jazz Festival, Breslau Jazz Festival.

As a leader Rick also assembled his groups to perform his personal style of jazz music, some of the venues include: Kiama Jazz Festival Australia, Canary Islands Jazz Festival, LaRoche jazz festival, The Basement Jazz Club Sydney. Rick's first release "One Take" (currently out of print) defines the way jazz is meant to be documented, live! recorded live at the Unterfahrt Jazz Club in Munich Germany. "The Instigator" (i-tunes, amazon) which is a CD that can be best described as colorful, highly emotional progressive jazz. World class trumpeter Bobby Shew wrote the liner notes, and said " Each tune is extremely unique in harmonic and rhythmic structure as well as lyricism. These tunes are all very challenging but the guys in the band really nail everything beautifully. This is a "PLAY MANY TIMES" CD." Info regarding Ricks latest appearances can be found at www.futuresax.com .

2009 saw Rick touring South America with Christopher Cross. Rick has been touring the US extensively with Frankie Valli as well as Australia, and the UK. Most recently his horn orchestrations and playing are featured on Danny Seraphine's CTA 2013 release: "Sacred Ground" .Rick is a dedicated educator and frequently teaches master classes at summer camps and schools along with individual instruction in the language of jazz. Passing valuable information and techniques to help the American jazz art form to thrive. Having completed his performance degree at the famed University of Miami as well as some masters studies at New England conservatory of music his teachers include Ron Miller, Gary Cambell, George Garzone and Vince Maggio.