

Joachim Schoenecker – Guitarist

Praised for his sensitive, lyrical and powerful playing, Joachim Schoenecker is one of the leading German jazz guitar players. Having released five CDs as a leader, with world renowned artists like Chris Potter, Adam Nussbaum or Peter Bernstein, he is also very much in demand as a sideman and has played and recorded with many great musicians. He has contributed his playing to internationally acclaimed productions, like Patti Austin's Grammy winning CD 'Avant Gershwin'.

Joachim Schoenecker has studied at the "Hilversums Conservatorium" in Holland and at the „Musikhochschule Köln“. In 1995, he was a semifinalist in the renowned "Thelonious Monk Competition" in Washington D.C..

1997 his CD debut as a leader "Common Language", with Jeff Hamilton, Larry Fuller and John Goldsby is released on „Doubletime-Records“ and gets raving reviews in the press. The German magazine "Jazzpodium" calls him „one of the master guitar-players of modern jazz“.

He wins numerous awards and the "Stiftung Kunst und Kultur des Landes NRW" donates him a guitar made by the world-famed luthier Robert Benedetto.

His second CD "In The Moment", with Chris Potter, Adam Nussbaum and John Goldsby, co-produced by the WDR, Germany's biggest radio and broadcasting station, is released in 2000. "Super jazz guitar playing" writes "allaboutjazz.com" and calls him "Germany's best kept secret". The German magazine "Akustik Gitarre" writes: "A concentrated charge of musicality...a must for jazz-guitar lovers and a real discovery in the German scene." Critics of the American "JazzTimes Magazine" vote „In The Moment“ as one of the top 5 CDs of the year.

2004 his third album as a leader, "Nocturnes", with Dietmar Fuhr on bass, Chander Sardjoe on drums and mridangam, the „Minguet Stringquartet“ and arrangements by Florian Ross, is released. "Joachim Schoenecker is among the best that European guitar jazz has to offer!" writes "Gitarre & Bass", and "Jazzthing", another German jazz magazine says: "An incredibly beautiful album."

His album, 'Blunatic', released in 2007, with Members from the world renowned WDR Bigband was praised in many reviews, from jazz-guitar internet communities to leading magazines like the German 'SPIEGEL' and was chosen as CD of the year by the jazz guitar site 'www.archtop-germany.de'.

His latest CD, 'Dialogues', a duo recording with N.Y. based guitarist Peter Bernstein, has been released in 2009 also was voted CD of the year at 'www.archtop-germany.de' and received raving reviews.

The German Foreign Ministry and the "Goethe Institut" have invited Joachim to perform in Egypt, Sudan, Turkey, Serbia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti and Uganda. Numerous appearances at international festivals and in clubs, are indicators for his growing popularity and status in the international jazz community.

Besides his projects as a leader with his quartet, trio or ensemble (trio + stringquartet), Joachim Schoenecker has worked as a sideman in the studio or on stage with many famous musicians like "Toots" Thielemans, Patti Austin, Paquito D'Rivera, Peter Erskine, Rich Perry, Jan Delay, Don Braden, John Riley, Jeff Hamilton, Dick Oatts, John Marshall, Michael Abene, Peter Weniger, Silvia Droste, the WDR Bigband and the WDR Sinfony Orchestra.

Joachim Schönecker has been teaching jazz guitar and ensemble classes at the 'Hochschule für Musik und Theater' in Leipzig, at the 'Hochschule für Musik Saar' in Saarbrücken and the 'Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover'. Currently he teaches at 'Institut für Musik der Hochschule Osnabrück' and the 'Conservatorium Maastricht'. He also is booked for teaching clinics and masterclasses worldwide, is part of the teaching staff of the 'Taipei International Summer Jazz Academy' in Taiwan and regularly contributes workshops to Germany's biggest guitar magazine 'Gitarre & Bass'. In the last years, he has also been much in demand as a composer and producer of the music for various theater productions at 'Staatstheater Darmstadt', 'Schauspiel Frankfurt' and 'Theaterhaus Jena'.