

## **Bob DeVos    Guitarist-Composer-Clinician**

[www.bobdevosjazzguitar.com](http://www.bobdevosjazzguitar.com)

[www.myspace.com/bobdevos](http://www.myspace.com/bobdevos)

Guitarist, composer, and arranger Bob DeVos is hailed as "a brilliant, knowing bebop player, a master with a sound to die for--rich, full, deep, positive, round and warm." With long, blues-drenched melodic lines and a horn-like approach, Bob has a signature style of groove and sophistication. Audiences and critics thrill to his "full, liquid tone," "soulful, intelligent interpretations," "masterful compositions and arrangements," and his "infectious, funky groove." A modern player with strong traditional roots, Bob is at home with straight-ahead jazz, blues, Rhythm & Blues, funk, Latin and more.

Mr. DeVos' CDs as a leader for HighNote/Savant and Blues Leaf Records have earned rave reviews and many stars in *Downbeat* and throughout the jazz media. "Shifting Sands" (HighNote/Savant) featuring Bob with his trio plus tenor saxophonist Eric Alexander and percussionist Gary Fritz was high on *JazzWeek's* Top 50 National Airplay Chart for seven months, and appeared on many Top Jazz CDs lists. "Playing for Keeps" (HighNote/Savant) was in the top ten (#6) on *Jazz Week's* Top 50 for 18 weeks. It features Bob with his trio joined again by guest tenor great Eric Alexander on Bob's acclaimed originals and hip arrangements of a wide range of jazz standards. Bob is currently working on his next Savant release.

Mr. DeVos heads his own modern, powerhouse Bob DeVos Organ Trio with Dan Kostelnik on Hammond B3 organ and Steve Johns on drums. He also collaborates frequently with Eric Alexander, Mike LeDonne, Onaje Allan Gumbs, Hendrik Meurkens and Akiko Tsuruga. Bob was the musical director/guitarist for the smashing concert, "An Organ Summit Supreme," reuniting with organ greats Dr. Lonnie Smith and Trudy Pitts and tenor sax legends David "Fathead" Newman and Houston Person. He is a member of Bill Warfield's New York Jazz Repertory Orchestra.

An in-demand player, Bob also has a large and far-reaching discography as a sideman. He has a strong following for his innovative work with a who's who of jazz greats both in and outside of the Hammond B3 organ genre. He studied jazz as a teenager with Harry Leahy and the legendary Dennis Sandole. When Sandole sent his students to replace Pat Martino in the Trudy Pitts and Mr. C Trio, Bob got the gig. He went on to play and record extensively with the legendary Hammond B3 organ groups: Richard "Groove" Holmes-Sonny Stitt, Jimmy McGriff-Hank Crawford, and especially Charles "The Mighty Burner" Earland's group with Eric Alexander and Jim Rotondi. Bob works with the modern B3 players including Dr. Lonnie Smith, Joey DeFrancesco, Mike LeDonne and more. He deepened his compositional and harmonic skills playing with Gerry Niewood's "Timepiece" featuring Dave Samuels, and with Jed Levy as part of the forward-thinking Ron McClure Quartet, which reunites periodically.

In recent years, Bob has performed at the Kennedy Center, The Kimmel Center, The NJ State Theater, The Blue Note, Iridium, The Jazz Bakery, The Kitano, SMOKE, Chris', the Smithsonian, the San Diego Art Museum, Birdland, Jazz Mobile, The Jazz Cruise, and numerous festivals in the US and worldwide, including the JVC Jazz Festivals in NYC and Miami Beach and The San Francisco Jazz Festival. Other jazz greats with whom Bob has played and/or recorded include Pepper Adams, Harry Allen, Ralph Bowen, Freddy Cole, Kenny Drew Jr., Billy Drummond, Joe Farnsworth, Don Friedman, Larry Goldings, Billy Hart, "Screaming" Jay Hawkins, David Hazeltine, Etta Jones, Gladys Knight, Dave Liebman, Jack MacDuff, Pat Martino, Idris Muhammad, Adam Nussbaum, Greg Osby, Dick Oatts, Jeremy Pelt, Irene Reid, Bob Sheppard, Grady Tate, Stanley Turrentine, Dave Valentin, Ray Vega, Kenny Washington, Jerry Weldon, Buddy Williams, and many, many more.

Mr. DeVos is currently on the music faculty at Lehigh University and teaches privately. An innovative and sensitive teacher, he has done extensive work in jazz clinics worldwide, and has also taught at William Paterson University and is a past artist-in-residence at Newark, NJ's prestigious Arts High.