

MEL MARTIN 'S JAZZ AND SAXOPHONE NEWSLETTER



[Fall Newsletter '08](#)

Hello friends;

We are almost through the Presidential election season and it has become exceedingly clear over the last eight years that our country needs a change in direction. The only real candidate of change is [Barak Obama](#) who has run an exceptional campaign by all estimates. I don't believe I can change anyone's mind at this point but....I don't really see "undecided" as a legitimate position in this of all races. If you are confused by all of the smear tactics from the right, you might check out the [endorsements](#) by Colin Powell, Susan Eisenhower, Ken Duberstein, William Ruckelshaus, Jim Leach, Chuck Hagel, Jim Whitaker, Lincoln Chaffee, Christopher Hitchens, Scott McLellan, William Weld and so many other Republicans. Also, Many right wing pundits, if not voting for Obama, have been extremely critical of McCain/Palin. Many major news editorials have been pro Obama including those that rarely or never endorse a Democrat. And that's just the Right. Please check out the [endorsements](#) from the left and the picture becomes clearer. McCain's vice presidential choice alone should disqualify him. Please consider all sides to this and I believe that you as an intelligent voter, will make the correct decision for you, the country and real progress. But, by all means, VOTE!



On to the latest events:

I've just completed a new recording project, **Where The Warm Winds Blow**, which I

hope to see released in the Spring. It is quite different from anything I've recorded since the early '90s and is reminiscent in ways to my early Listen recordings but with much more of a jazz slant. It was recorded in July when the great jazz pianist Don Friedman came out from New York to do a California tour with my group including guitarist Brad Buethe, bassist Robb Fisher and drummer extraordinaire Jeff Marrs. Besides Don, special guests include John Santos on percussion and Barry Finnerty on guitar. The repertoire is broad and varied from the Latin-tinged *Rhythm Man (Do Not Disturb)* to the contemporary classical piece with a jazz breakout *In The Stars* by Stephen Mellilo, *I Have A Dream* by the great Herbie Hancock including my adaptation for woodwinds of his original horn arrangement, the funky, Bitches Brew style of *Silly Hawk Walk*, a beautiful live version of *Blue In Green*, George Russell's inventive take on *Love For Sale: Ezz-Thetic*, The great *Benny Carter* composition *Where The Warm Winds Blow*, my personal tribute in 6/8 to my lovely wife Catey: *To Catey With Love*, and the chestnut Victor Young composition *Weaver of Dreams*. On many of the pieces, I overdubbed special woodwind arrangements appropriate to the particular composition or jsut featured the sextet and quartet. I'm very excited about getting it out there and hope that you will enjoy it.





Last but not least, here are my upcoming performances. After all the election hub-bub, I can heartily recommend that you come out and hear us.

Sunday Evening, November 9, 2008 - A Jazz Tribute to [Mel Graves](#) w/ Mel Martinsin - saxophones and flute, [Denny Zeitlin](#) - piano, [Art Lande](#) - piano, [Randy Vincent](#) - guitar, [Peter Barshay](#) - bass and [George Marsh](#) - drums, Ives hall - Warren Auditorium, [Sonoma State University](#), 1801 East Cotati Ave • Rohnert Park, CA 94928 7:30 - 10:30PM \$15 Donation

A very special tribute concert to my old friend and associate bassist/composer/educator Mel Graves who is ill with cancer. Proceeds will create a scholarship in Mel's name. I will be reunited with pianist Art Lande who I haven't played with in a long time.

Friday & Saturday Evenings, November 14-15, 2008 - THE MELMARTIN QUARTET@ [The Kitano](#), w, [Taylor Eigsti](#) - piano, [Steve Laspina](#) - bass and [Steve Johns](#) - drums. 66 Park Avenue, NY, NY 10016 (212)885-7000 (800)548-2666 Shows at 8&10PM \$25 -cover, \$15 minimum. [Jazz@kitano.com](#)

This is my return engagement at this wonderfully upscale Jazz room in Manhattan. The quartet will feature the exciting young California pianist (now living in NY) [Taylor Eigsti](#). I hope to see many of you there.

Saturday Evening, November 29, 2008 - The MEL MARTIN QUARTET @ [The NoName Bar](#), 757 Bridgeway, Sausalito, CA 94965 Phone: (415) 332-1392 w/ [Barry Finnerty](#) - guitar, [Robb Fisher](#) - bass and [Lorca Hart](#) - drums. 9PM-1AM

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Hear and see [James K](#) and Mel at [Z's 4th B'day](#) Party



[Check out the Z-man](#)



[Hear Z's latest Rap Track](#)

These recordings are available at my [web site](#).

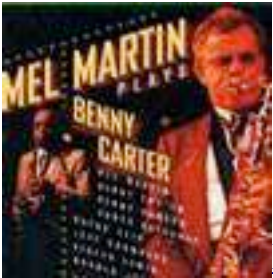


["Just Friends" The Mel Martin/Benny Carter Quintet Live @ Yoshi's](#)(Also available at [iTunes](#))



[Mel Martin and Bebop and Beyond CD-5006](#)

"Friends and Mentors" - Bebop and Beyond Plays the Music of Mel Martin (Also available at [iTunes](#))



[Mel Martin Plays Benny Carter featuring Benny Carter CD-9041 2](#)

Mel Martin is a [Rico Reeds](#) (J'Daddario Corp.) and [Yanagisawa](#) (Conn-Selmer) artist.

Mel Martin plays [Peter Ponzol Mouthpieces](#) exclusively.

For updates on upcoming events, please check out my [events page](#).

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