

## Mp3 Ted Piltzecker - Standing Alone



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At once totally engaging and very relaxing, virtuoso vibraphonist nails these standards SOLO with great lyricism and substance. You'll think he is singing quietly in your ear. 13 MP3 Songs EASY LISTENING: Mood Music, JAZZ: Traditional Jazz Combo Details: ALL MUSIC GUIDE Ted Piltzecker "Standing Alone" Equilibrium Review by Judith Schlesinger Any solo CD requires great talent and imagination to be interesting all the way through. With vibes, such lone expeditions are rare and can be risky, with things turning monotonous and muddy in the wrong hands. Fortunately, Ted Piltzecker has the right ones, as well as superb taste, time, sensitivity and swing - all of it evident in this thoroughly enjoyable collection of thirteen tracks, mostly jazz classics done at ballad tempo. A master player with pyrotechnics in reserve, Piltzecker is also a composer, professor, and clinician who tours with the George Shearing Quintet and has released three albums as a leader. Here, he uses a cool palette of violets, blues and greens - with occasional flashes of red - to create music that is both soothing and intriguing. The CD works beautifully as a solo journey because it avoids too much abstraction, delivers one heartfelt, definitive chorus of each tune, and provides continuous variety and contrast in dynamics and material. Given Piltzecker's judicious use of the pedal, the tracks are clean and clutter-free; highlighting the beauty and versatility of the instrument, they add a lovely shimmer to old favorites. With this treatment, the more haunting melodies, like Invitation, Coltrane's Naima, and Jobim's Trieste become positively magical. On La Malanga, the joyful little closer, Piltzecker accompanies himself on the djimbe, a West African drum: a fitting ending to an adventurous journey that is also touching and elegant. RATED: excellent AMG pick "Standing Alone" Ted Piltzecker (Equilibrium) ALL ABOUT JAZZ Review by Mark Corroto Like solo piano sessions, solo vibraphone recordings are extremely personal, solitary events. They tend to relate to their listeners on an individual basis. Vibes-man Ted Piltzecker a member of George Shearing's quintet releases this solo

session as a follow up to his 1996 excellent quintet date *Unicycle Man* with Bob Mintzer, James Williams and Harvie Swartz. By choosing mostly jazz standards, Piltzecker begins halfway inside the listeners comfort zone. He takes you the rest of the way by his quiet elegance. *Standing Alone* reminds one of the late John Lewis's final *Evolution* recordings. Piltzecker doesn't thrill you with pyrotechnics; he relies on a well-placed note. Covering John Coltrane's *Naima*, Rodgers and Hart's *My Romance*, and Ellington's *In A Sentimental Mood* appeals to Piltzecker's modest approach to jazz's passionate history. He fills the 43-minutes with expressive grace, maintaining interest throughout. He can sound like he's ringing leaded crystal *In Your Own Sweet Way* or he can reproduce the feel of a piano. Piltzecker applies both a single and a four-mallet approach with a fluid delivery and an insider's hipness. Highly recommended. Track Listing: *My Romance*; *My One And Only Love*; *In Your Own Sweet Way*; *In A Sentimental Mood*; *Trieste*; *God Bless The Child*; *Body And Soul*; *Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans*; *Blue In Green*; *Invitation*; *Like Someone In Love*; *Naima*; *La Malange*. Personnel: Ted Piltzecker- Vibraphone, Djimbe.

**TED PILTZECKER - Bio** Vibraphonist/composer, Ted Piltzecker tours nationally and internationally as a soloist as well as with the famed George Shearing Quintet. He has recorded three albums as a leader. His debut album, *Destinations*, climbed to number eight in national jazz airplay, and his second release, *Unicycle Man* on the Equilibrium label (featuring Bob Mintzer, Harvie Swartz, James Williams, and Dave Meade) remained on the Gavin Jazz Chart for months. The Victory Music Review calls it "a thoughtful recording filled with tasteful flair, the product of confident mature musicians who are committed to the ensemble." Jazz writer and critic, Nat Hentoff praised the album as "a lyrical, thoughtful, relaxing meeting of mutually appreciative improvisers whose time is timeless." His most recent recording, *Standing Alone* on Equilibrium is a collection of standards and ballads for solo vibraphone. The National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (Fellowship 2000) have awarded grants to Ted in both performance and composition. His works have been aired on National Public Radio's "Performance Today" and the Canadian Broadcasting Company's "Arts National." Ted is a professor of music at Purchase Conservatory, State University of New York. He has held faculty positions at the University of Michigan, William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey, and the Manhattan School of Music. His educational activities are endorsed by Selmer Industries and he is a popular clinician in universities across the country. For eight years, Ted directed the jazz program at the Aspen Music Festival where he regularly performed with many of the great names in jazz.

(Jimmy Heath, Joe Williams, Clark Terry, Mel Torme, Ernie Watts, Hubert Laws, Slide Hampton, Toshiko Akiyoshi, and many more) Ted has performed in New York area concerts and clubs with guitarists Gene Burtoncini and Vic Juris, bassists Andy McKee and Todd Coolman, drummers Lewis Nash, Andrew Cyrille, and Clarence Penn, pianists Jim McNeeley, John Hicks, Bill Charlap, and Harold Danko, and with saxophonists Chris Potter and Steve Wilson. He appears as a featured soloist in percussion festivals around the world, from Hannover's Deutsches Percussion Symposium and London's Percussive Arts Society (UK) to Brazil's Ritmos da Terra. His appearances with orchestras, including the Tucson Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Regina Symphony Orchestras have variously spotlighted Ted as a performer, composer, and conductor. European engagements as a jazz headliner include the esteemed UMO Jazz Orchestra in Helsinki (guest soloist/composer) and several tours of German clubs and concert halls. His performance experience also encompasses world and ethnic music, ranging from the Kenny Endo Taiko Ensemble of Tokyo to the Chinese ensemble Spirit of Nature. Ted is a graduate of the Eastman and Manhattan Schools of Music. He is also a licensed pilot and unicyclist.

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