

Mp3 Ken Arconti - Samsara Blues



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A set of 10 original instrumentals from noted Bay Area guitarist, ranging from the fringes of smooth jazz, rock, and funky groove, to ballads and bossa nova, with its soul in the blues. 10 MP3 Songs JAZZ: Jazz Fusion, BLUES: Jazzy Blues Details: Guitarist/vocalist Ken Arconti is a native Californian who has performed in the San Francisco Bay Area for over 20 years. At home in almost any musical environment, his playing is filled with passion, sensitivity and soulful lyricism. His second solo release, "Samsara Blues," features 10 original instrumental compositions, ranging from funky jam-oriented excursions, to hard rocking blues, to soulful, introspective ballads. Ken is joined on the CD by some of the Bay Area's finest musicians: John R. Burr on keyboards (Alison Brown, Robben Ford), Dewayne Pate on bass (Robben Ford, Chris Cain), David Rokeach on drums (Aretha Franklin, Ray Charles), Tom Politzer on tenor alto saxophone (Tower of Power, Spang-A-Lang), and David "Pacha" Alvarez S. on congas percussion (Sista Monica, Con Corazon). Inspired by the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, Ken began playing guitar at the age of 11. He was soon performing in bands and absorbing the sounds of the '60s. Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, the soul sounds of Stax Motown, the blues of B.B. and Albert King, and jazz artists Miles Davis and Wes Montgomery were all influences. In 1978, Ken moved from his home of Los Angeles to Santa Cruz and began playing in clubs around the Bay Area. He has performed everything from country to jazz, to top-40 rock, to rhythm blues. Well known for his blues playing, Ken has performed repeatedly at the Monterey Bay Blues Festival. The list of artists he has opened for reads like a "Who's Who" of the Blues: Robert Cray, Buddy Guy, John Lee Hooker, Albert Collins, Junior Wells, Johnny Copeland, Clarence Gatemouth Brown, John Mayall, Charlie Musselwhite, Robben Ford, Duke Robillard, Ronnie Earl, and Roomful of Blues, to name a few. Ken's first solo album, "As The Years Go Passing By"(1993), featured a set of hard-driving blues recorded live at the Catalyst in Santa Cruz. He

has also recorded/performed with the Broadway Blues Band, Terry Hanck the Soul Rockers, the Chris Cobb Band, The Mighty Penguins, and legendary New Orleans funk drummer Zigaboo Modeliste (the Meters). As well as performing, Ken carries a steady clientele of devoted guitar students. He taught in the California Arts In Corrections Program from 1992 to 2003, teaching guitar, music theory and improvisation at Soledad Prison. He was the recipient of a prestigious Artist in Residence Grant from the California Arts Council from 1999 to 2002, establishing a multi-cultural music/band program at Salinas Valley State Prison, which was featured in the 2002 VH1 documentary "Music Behind Bars."

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