

## Mp3 The Joe Decara Group - Kaleidoscope



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"Kaleidoscope" places a completely unique spin on instrumental music, featuring an original blend of Jazz, Rock, Funk and Blues. Catchy compositions, creative guitar interplay and upbeat rhythms make this CD a must-hear for all tastes and ages. 12 MP3 Songs JAZZ: Smooth Jazz, ROCK: Instrumental Rock

Details: Built around an unprecedented father and son collaboration of original composition and guitar interplay, the "Joes" achieve a unique sound by fusing various styles and genres. Although both guitarists possess their own individuality, the use of counterpoint, harmony, contrary motion and other devices allow them to blend as one voice. All material reflects the exploration of modern concepts with traditional form, giving the Joe DeCara Group their innovative style. Joe DeCara Sr. started playing guitar at the age of 4 years old. Having a good ear for picking out melodies he soon was learning some basic chord fingerings by observing his neighbor during their weekly band rehearsals. Over the next few years Joe augmented his repertoire of songs and the handful of chords that he knew. This took place from 1959 until 1963 when The Beatles came out and changed the music world. As far back as he can remember Joe played in bands; from grade school through high school. In the early to mid 70's Joe performed in night clubs, concerts and doing studio sessions as both a sideman and a leader. In 1973 he became interested in classical guitar and concentrated his efforts in learning compositions by Villa Lobos, Tarrega, Fernando Sor, Johann Sebastian Bach, Matteo Carcassi to name a few. Concurrent with studying classical guitar Joe had an admiration for Jazz and was soon woodshedding hours a day learning the repertoire of the jazz legends. In 1975 he met and jammed with legendary jazz guitarist Joe Pass and got together several times thereafter when Pass was playing in town. He went on to meet and play with other Jazz greats, Lenny Breau and Ted Greene in the years to follow. In 1979 Joe moved briefly to Los Angeles, California and met studio guitar giant Dennis Budimir. Dennis introduced Joe to the studio which

was unlike anything he's ever experienced. The brilliant scores written by master composers and performed by the finest musicians in the world, set to a scene in a movie or for television was something that would forge Joe's writing style and playing in the future. Only spending several months in Los Angeles, Joe moved back to Baltimore, Maryland when his father fell ill and died. Playing as a freelance guitarist for orchestras and bands, playing solo guitar, performing with jazz combos, writing instructional books for the guitar and teaching has kept him busy for the years thereafter. In 2005 Joe collaborated with his son (22) and co-wrote the music for the cd Kaleidoscope and formed the Joe DeCara Group. Joe says his collaboration with his son has been the most rewarding experience musically and inspirationally. Playing guitar and writing new music with my son has rekindled the passion and enthusiasm I had when I started back at age 4". Having a full-time working musician for a father has given Joe DeCara Jr. an entire lifetime of musical exposure. From a very young child, Joe was constantly surrounded by the sounds of many musical styles and genres, and this opportune upbringing has given him an innate and sophisticated understanding of the art of music. His talent and passion for music became apparent at the age of 7, when he began studying classical/jazz piano. After only a few lessons he began to experiment with his own musical ideas, and at age 8 had composed 5 original classical-style pieces. However, shortly after, Joe's interest in the piano waned as he became interested in the guitar. Having a world-class performer and guitar instructor right within the home, Joe began taking lessons with his father and instantly fell in love with the instrument. As high school approached, Joe joined the school jazz ensemble and jazz combo, and had the chance to attend various master classes with artists such as Wynton Marsalis and Chris Vidala (Chuck Mangione). He also began rigorous musical studies in theory, ear training and composition. His progress over the 4 years eventually earned him a prestigious seat in the All-State Jazz Ensemble. Joe then furthered his musical study throughout college, where he continued to perform in numerous jazz ensembles, jazz combos and big bands around the Baltimore/Washington area. Since then, Joe has paired up with his father to create the Joe DeCara Group, which he now co-leads and co-writes for. The Joes recently released their first entirely original album in 2005 entitled "Kaleidoscope", appropriately named after the blending of two unique musical backgrounds and distinct eras that the Joes mix into one.

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