

Mp3 Kevin Mackenzie's Vital Signs - Another New Horizon



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Scottish and Eastern European Flavoured jazz with a nine piece band. Two Fiddles Two Saxes Concertina, Piano, Bass, Guitar and Drums. 'Album of the month' in the Guardian and Observer newspapers. 9 MP3 Songs JAZZ: World Fusion, FOLK: Modern Folk Details: Jazz:: Kevin has been active on the scene since late eighties. In 1987 he became involved in the John Rae Collective of which he was a founder member. In January 1988 he toured France with Tommy Smith and Ian Froman. In 1990 he toured Czechoslovakia and Canada with The John Rae Collective and recorded their Album 'The Big If Smiles Again. Around this time he also started working with Tom Bancroft Orchestra. 1991 Started group The Kevin Mackenzie Quartet featuring Julian Arguelles on saxophone (Carla Bley /Loose Tubes): 1991 moved to New York where he managed to play with many up coming and established players such as Joe Locke, Adam Rogers (Lost Tribe, Bill Evans group, Norah Jones), Roberta Picket, Craig Handy, Ben Perowski and Victor Jones. 1992: Returned to Scotland where resumed work with his quartet. Received SAC grant for rehearsal and development of the band. Toured Scotland and was featured alongside guitarist Robben Ford's power trio, Bob Berg and Mike Stern and Seminal Jazz figure Ornette Coleman. 1994: started up electric jazz based Coolgroove which incorporated the talents of Russell Cowieson, Colin Steele, Dave Milligan, John Speirs and Iain Copeland. This band included many contemporary music styles and was a regular feature at dance clubs such as Big Beat and JU JU Jazz. They were also featured as a support for Jazz crusaders on their Scottish Tour. The band gradually changed as did the Personnel and eventually became Swirler. Swirler toured regularly including a trip to Tbilisi, Georgia as part of their art and theatre festival and supporting Hue and Cry at Haddington Music festival 1999. They also have a CD out on Caber Music. Their music is contemporary and blends the hard edged east coast sound of Steve Coleman with Drum n Bass and House styles. Kevin is a member of

Trio AAB. Featuring Phil and Tom Bancroft.. This trio experiments with all types of music and their album Cold Fusion won Radio Threes jazz album of the year 1999. They performed at Bath Music festival in 2000 where the Sunday Times sighted them as one of the festival highlights and 2003 their album Stranger things happen at C featuring Brian Finnegan toured as part of CMNs Double Helix project In 2000 he performed with his Quartet this time featuring amazing drummer Ari Hoenig and performed a new set of music which was the result of a joint commission from the SAC and Assembly Direct at the Edinburgh jazz Festival. In 2001 Kevin received the prestigious Creative Scotland Award, which he used to write and record music for his nine-piece band Kevin Mackenzies Vital Signs. The CD received rave reviews including album of the month in The Observer and CD of the week in The Guardian. Kevin is a regular member of the 'Scottish Guitar Quartet' who have their fourth album a compilation released by German guitarist peter Finger and are set to play at the 'Vienna Guitar Festival in 2006' As well as these regular outfits he has performed with many established jazz musicians including Pete King, Benny Carter, Kenny Wheeler, Julian Argueles, Tommy Smith, Joe Locke, Bobby Wellins, Jim Mullen, David Berkman, Reid Anderson, and many others. Traditional Music: Kevin has been playing Traditional since the late eighties when band The Giant Stepping Stanes were formed. The band featured John Rae, Tommy Smith, Phil Bancroft and Colin Steele. They soon had some concerts and television appearances. Most of the band were best known as Jazz musicians and soon they inspired musicians such as Cathol McConnel (Boys of the Loch) to come and sit in on rehearsals, swap ideas and teach them tunes. 1993: Met up with concertina player Simon Thoumire and formed The Simon Thoumire Three. This trio was based on tradition, Jazz and improvisation. They recorded two albums Waltzes for Playboys and March Strathspey and Surreal, toured extensively in the U.K. and countries such as; Canada, Poland, Germany, Holland, Finland, Belgium, Switzerland and America. Kevin also started playing with many traditional players such as Martyn Bennett, Ealidh Shaw, Charlie McKeron (Capercaille), Brian Finnegan (Fluke), Simon Bradley and Karen Tweed. 1997: Joined traditional band Keep it Up and recorded an album of the same name. 1998: Played at Tonder festival in Denmark and the Shetland Folk Festival. 1999 toured Canadian festivals. 1999: Recorded a CD with Gaelic singer Alyth McCormick and performed at the Fruit Market in Glasgow as par of Celtic Connections. 2000:Recorded on John McCuskers (Battlefield Band, Recipient of 1999 Spirit of Scotland Award), new CD Yella Hoose Joined CMC (fiddle players Claire McGlaughlin And Marianne Campbell (Deaf Shepherd).) and Supported Liz Carroll in Glasgow. Recorded

on young up-coming piper Findlay Macdonalds new CD.2003; Recorded a new Album with the Finlay Macdonald Band Pressed for Time and On Safari with Keep it Up. Toured with Shetland band Fiddlers Bid in Germany, Sweden and the UK Collaborated with Swedish Super group Vassen. 2004: Toured with Kevin Henderson and Jenna Reid in Sweden and toured extensively with Finlay Macdonald. 2005; Released With Silver an All Jenna Reid , recorded Experiments in Culture Simon Thoumire. Toured With Julie Fowlis, Current: Touring with Jenna Reid, Finlay Macdonald, Sunhoney The Scottish Stepdance Company; Accordion player Leo McCann featuring fiddle player Aiden ORourke. Jenna Reid Fiddlers Bid. Contemporary: I Have recorded and toured with pop band Hue an Cry. Recorded/Performed with Rap /Soul band Blackanized the East Coast Project and Coco and the Bean and am involved in a current rap project.

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