

# Steve McKenna

## Jazz Guitarist, Composer

Date of birth: 12<sup>th</sup> October 1958  
Nationality: Australian  
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- Studied privately with Joe Pass, Pat Martino, Robin Ford, Joe Diorio and Jack Wilkins. Los Angeles GIT (Guitar Institute of Technology) and New York
- Outstanding player of the year 1981 at GIT
- Diploma of Jazz Guitar GIT 1981
- Bicentennial Music Award 1988 - Most Outstanding Jazz Guitarist
- Head of Jazz Guitar Studies at the University of Wollongong, Australia 1984- 1986
- Head of Jazz Guitar Studies at the Conservatorium of music, Sydney, Australia 1990-94
- Lecturer of Jazz Guitar Studies at Weimar Conservatorium, Germany 2000
- Lecturer at the Australian Institute of Music, Sydney, Australia 2002 - present
- Lecturer at the Guitar Institute of Music, London 2004
- Conducted clinics / concerts throughout Australia, Asia and Europe
- Played with and conducted workshops with leading US Guitar player Jack Wilkins
- Performed at Jazz Festivals throughout Australia. Played with artists such as:

Dizzy Gillespie	Courtney Pine	Don Rader
Mike Nock	Bernie McGann	James Morrison
Dale Barlow	Don Burrows	Paul Grabowsky
- Toured many countries as Musical director of The Drifters, Delilah and Jane Scarlie
- Played with the Geoff Harvey Orchestra
- Played on movie scores for Alan Zavod, ex. Frank Zappa
- After arriving in Germany in 1994, Steve established himself in the European scene as a sought-after musician. Played and recorded with the following musicians:

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Bob Berg	The Weather Girls	Joe Pass
Eartha Kitt	Peter O'Mara	Mike Stern
Tony Lakatos	Hugo Strasser	Barbara Dennerlein
Gene Calderazzo	Carl Davis (conductor from NYC with the Bayrischer Rundfunk Orchestra)	

- Featured with Radio Big Bands throughout Europe, e.g. projects with the Frankfurt and Bayrischer Rundfunk Orchestra, Barbara Dennerlein, Tony Lakatos and Kurt Bong
- Leader of 'Steve McKenna Quartet and Trio' and 'Steve McKenna Organ Trio' playing in Australian and European venues.
- Profiles:
  - Greek Guitar Magazine 1990
  - Australian Guitar Journal 1990 Vol. 2 No. 5
  - Sonics - concert reviews
  - Cleo - CD Review
  - ABC, 24 Hour Magazine
  - Drum Media
  - On the Street - concert and CD reviews
  - Sydney Morning Herald - concerts and CD reviews
- Albums and Recordings:
 

Steve McKenna 'New Times' 2004	Mad CD
Rick Keller 'The Instigator' 2001	Independent
Steve Hunter '9 Lives' 1999	ABC
Michael Lutzeier 'Music for Food' 1998	J4E7439
Steffen Kuhn 'Jazz Bridges' 1997	Independent
Rick Keller 'One Take' 1996	Rose Bowl
Sonic Fiction 'Powerful Medecine' 1994	Tall Poppies
Steve McKenna 'Sea View' 1993	Larrikin
Steve McKenna 'Wall to Wall Cement' 1991	Larrikin
'Jazz in the Jungle' 1986	Larrikin
Maree Montgomery 'Women of Mystery' 1986	Larrikin
Steve McKenna / Don Harper 1986	Larrikin
Don Harper's Australian Jazz Ensemble 1982	Avon Gard
Salute to Charlie Christian 1979	Pol 056