

Randy Klein

Quote Sheet – Multiple CDs

WHAT'S NEXT?

Klein's note selection and soloing is a combination of Bill Evans and Ahmad Jamal. He plays nice full chords underneath thoughtful single lines that flow effectively through the changes

- *Guitar International, Vince Lewis*

Skolnick immediately shows that he is capable of a nice full traditional Jazz tone and phrasing. Skolnick serves as a perfect partner to Klein's musical intent

- *Guitar International, Vince Lewis*

Each tune is perfectly placed in the order of the presentation to guarantee a solid contrast throughout. The melodies are all extremely well crafted and interesting. Klein's chord progressions offer a modern approach while maintaining enough of the traditional thought processes to be logical and pleasing to the most hard line old school listener - *Guitar International, Vince Lewis*

This is a truly fine recording performed by three excellent musicians. It will be a welcome addition to the library of any Jazz fan. That is a truly rare combination and a testament to the quality of the compositions

- *Guitar International, Vince Lewis*

...the result is one of the most lyrical, melodic yet incisively swinging releases to come out in many moons

- *JazzWeekly.com, George W. Harris*

Klein's got a flowing touch with an inherent sense of pulse, flow and timing, making these tunes come off like intriguing conversations between longtime friends. Skolnick's warm guitar embraces sonatas like "Exalted Kingdom" and the luxurious "In The Twilight Hours" with delicacy while he can also give it all he's got, yet without shouting, on the fun loving "No"

- *JazzWeekly.com, George W. Harris*

Gently gliding like a spring brook, this music is refreshing to the soul

- *JazzWeekly.com, George W. Harris*

Jazz duo albums can sometimes be a hit and miss affair yet one that completely hits the bullseye is What's Next? by jazz pianist Randy Klein

- *MWE3.com*

Guitar fans will note Skolnick's tasteful fretboard work on What's Next? and indeed Skolnick's deft touch sounds quite well suited to Klein's jazzy piano

- *MWE3.com*

Jazz fans who appreciate sensitive, varied, acoustic piano-based albums are truly well served by this album

- *MWE3.com*

What's Next? is an all-around success

- *All Music Guide, Ken Dryden*

Skolnick absorbs the subtlety of the pianist's music and proves himself to be a good listener, complementing Klein's work with thoughtful solos and accompaniment, beginning with the infectious opener "Exalted Kingdom," which is reminiscent of the kind of duets Chick Corea often plays with vibraphonist Gary Burton

- *All Music Guide, Ken Dryden*

The soft, understated samba setting of "No" is full of inspired moments...

- *All Music Guide, Ken Dryden*

Kozlov's sublime playing being the perfect match for Klein's whimsical piano

- *All Music Guide, Ken Dryden*

...the pianist and bassist deftly engage one another in a delightful musical conversation

- *All Music Guide, Ken Dryden*

What's Next? is engaging from start to finish. Klein's tunes grab you and won't let go. The bottom line: when Klein and his two collaborators use their considerable skills on his excellent tunes the results are magical

- *Rochester City Newspaper, Ron Netsky*

What's Next? Klein's Two Duos dates are about one-plus-one rapport and intimacy, and both albums deserves high marks. Clarity is ever-present throughout

- *All About Jazz, Dan Bilawsky*

Two Duos: What's Next? – Randy Klein is a preternaturally gifted composer

- *Buffalo News, Jeff Simon*

Forget the gimmicks, Klein is a solid piano man and this format showcases a nice slice of brilliance on a budget

- *Midwest Record, Chris Spector*

The soundstage is open drawing listeners into Klein's space and keeping them there with a smile

- *O's Place Jazz, Maga*

SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday Morning is magical and captivating. Two duos is off to a fantastic start.

- *Birmingham Times, Esther Callens*

Klein's play is both complementary and artistic. His uplifting solo on the effervescent "Doo Boo Bop" boasts a spirited technique, while the nuanced ruminations on "Fly Free" has a gossamer quality. Despite a two-instrument context, the melodies are interpreted with great detail, allowing for supple, yet piquant exchanges.

- *Robbie Gerson, Audiophile Audition*

Overall, these musical conversations present an opportunity for the listener to find pleasure and new ideas of their own in their own interpretations of the music.

- *Sounds Of Timeless Jazz*

Sunday Morning - Klein's performance is first-rate throughout Sunday Morning's twelve musical musings.

- *All About Jazz, Dan Bilawsky*

Randy Klein, is an important person in the world of American Jazz

- *Hungarian Instrument Page, Rudolf Radnai*

THE FLOWING

The music is the artist's deep introspection reflected on the surface of a serene pond. The music presented is effective storytelling full of worthwhile tangents. It is presented with depth and meaning.

- *Jazz.com, Walter Kolosky*

Here is music so soft, so serene, so caressing, with a feel almost like you're floating down in slow motion to descend upon a huge heap of feathers. That's the image Randy Klein wants you to conjure up in his latest album The Flowing and he nails it. Plain and simple, he nails it. You could well end up greatly thanking Klein for this quality time and his quality production.

- *Jazzreview.com, Ronald Jackson*

The music seems to blossom as the song[s] continue and the overall mood isn't cheery or joyous, but one of hope. The pieces are more about textural changes and melodic development. The Flowing has a general glow and peacefulness that is attractive and soothing. The pieces truly flow through Klein's fingers and the title is brought to life from the start through the final minutes of the album.

- *Jazz Improv NY, Dan Bilawsky*

A well-thought-out and most listenable collection of original solo piano improvisations. They are basically in the New Age bag but with more variety and depth than most recordings of that genre. There's even a bit of a jazz feel in some of the dozen tracks, and the piano sound is very natural.

- *Audiophile Audition, John Henry*

This is one of the more pleasantly listenable specimens I've heard in quite a while.

- *B+(**) Jazz Consumer Guide, Tom Hull*

Remarkably soothing, perfect for a massage therapist's practice room or a quiet happy hour at home after a brutal day at work. What's more, the structure of the compositions and the quality of the playing will stand up to more critical listening.

- *Alibi.com, Mel Minter*

"Randy Klein/The Flowing: Solo piano fans can count on getting a kick out of this improviser that has a real feel for being in the moments. Recorded in one session with the tape just getting one pass, he makes the most of the hot second.

- *MIDWEST RECORD, Chris Spector*

The serenading feel of "The Calm" or "Clean and Beautiful" have a lyrical and romantic beauty, as do all of the pieces. Klein's touch is assured and warm-each piece strolls without wandering. Similar to Keith Jarrett's solo readings.

- *Jazzweekly.com, George W. Harris*

While some listeners might be tempted to classify Randy Klein's playing as being new age (as some labeled Keith Jarrett's solo improvisations), his inventiveness and lyricism put him in the jazz camp, though he doesn't easily fit into any particular style."

- *Allmusic.com, Ken Dryden*

Klein's album is one of solo improvisations in the Keith Jarrett sense. They...are simpler and, hence, create an easier musical experience. Klein has a good sense of melody, but sometimes seems to get snared in repetition.

- *Pittsburgh Tribune, Bob Karlovits*

LOVE NOTES FROM THE BASS

Shows the versatility and good taste of two accomplished musicians. In short, it clearly demonstrates just

how strong a piano and bass duo performance can be.

- Milt *"The Judge"* Hinton

Harvie Swartz is one of the most melodic bass players I know.. I'm glad that Randy Klein's musical compositions really focus on his gift for melody. I love his work.

- Dr. Billy Taylor

Pianist/composer Randy Klein sets off bassist Harvie Swartz and his multi-faceted playing in a series of exquisite pieces that are moving and spirited.

- *JazzTimes*, Sunsh Stein

A sonic stunner...excluding compilations of Cole Porter, it would be difficult to find a stronger batch of melodies on one CD. These songs are like tapestries somehow woven out of teardrops, shadows, and the breeze. Klein and Swartz play these little masterpieces with passion and a palpable sense of understanding. You can almost hear them listening to each other. Every note is clarion; an enchanted creation.

- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, Keith Spore

Love Notes is virtual ESP between two virtuoso musical creators.

- W. Royal Stokes, *Jazz Critic and Author*

Excellent album...very sweet...playing it every Sunday on my show...

- *WDCU FM Jazz 90*, Gerry Hanlon

I was carried away on my computer a few days ago, and I let the intriguing tunes of Randy Klein play through twice. What great music, and Harvie Swartz is no stranger to me. It's difficult to dissect this CD tune by tune, and not really necessary. Everything just works so well and it will captivate you in a hurry. I know I'll be returning to this. It's a great 50 minutes with two interesting players.

- *KTXK- Texarcana, TX*, Jerry Atkins *Jazz Director*

As the title suggests, here is music for cold winter evenings by the fire (or a warm heater). Pianist Klein and bassist Swartz have great empathy and their duos, all Klein originals except one by Swartz, build in musicalness and beauty to a wondrous end with Klein's "Truly Yours" (named a CD of the month)

- *Lee Lo's New York Jazz Newsletter*, Lee Lowenfish

Love Notes From The Bass is very special. The first track made me cry, it was so moving. Definitely one of my top picks for '95.

- *CHUO-FM 89 Ottawa, Canada*, Randy McElligott

The most attractive quality of this disc is its starkness, and how the whispered bare tones of Klein's and Swartz' playing utilizes silence to convey delicacy and somberness.

- *Jazz Now Magazine*, Dave McElfresh

Veteran Harvie Swartz has a loving touch with his instrument. The songs, mostly slow, romantic melodies, showcase his rich, woody sound. Klein's music is consistent, warm, and quietly pleasing.

- *SOS Jazz, Youngstown, OH*

"An empathetic collaboration by a master bassist and a very talented pianist/composer; refreshing and original!"

- *Jazz Director, WWUH-FM , J.O. Spaak*

Tranquil. Gentle. Loving. Subtlety reigns here with ten original compositions...Technically excellent, with an almost classic feel. Love Notes is true to it's title, and definitely a solid effort.

- *Victory Review (Acoustic Music Review Magazine), Tom Roalkvam*

The pianist and the bassist work well together; their interaction seems telepathic. Klein is an individual stylist. As for Swartz - WOW! He ranks among the very best.

- *The Ohio Plain Dealer, Harvie Pekar*

Randy Klein, lyricist of witty songs, has come out with a very different idea for his second Jazzheads release. This purely instrumental date finds him playing supportive piano behind bassist Harvie Swartz on ten originals. This is a recording for listeners who love the sound of the acoustic bass. This project succeeds.

- *LA Jazz Scene, Scott Yanow*

A sensuous, romantic album: the remarkably expressive Swartz is one of the premier bassists, and Klein has given him marvelous showcases...worth the effort it might take to find it.

- *Black & White, Bart Grooms*

Love Notes with Randy Klein and Harvie Swartz is tops!

- *Maine Stream Jazz, Ogunquit, ME, Stix Leonard*

Love Notes is super stuff!! I know our listening audience will dig it as much as I did.

- *WOUI FM 88.9, Tom Dean*

Swartz is always great, he and Klein work well together.

- *KCME- Colorado Springs, CO, Lenny Mazel*

RANDY KLEIN'S JAZZHEADS

Pianist Randy Klein takes his place as one of the better jazz lyricists, just behind Dave Frishberg and Jon Hendricks. All the songs are certainly universal topics.

- *LA Jazz Scene, Scott Yanow*

Randy Klein's Jazzheads uses the whole musical playing field that will delight jazz lovers as well as those who may think they don't dig jazz. Klein uses inventive lyrics with infectious melodies making jazz that belong in a class with John Pizzarelli and Dave Frishberg. Original with a capital O!"

- *WBGO-FM Newark NJ - John J. Cooper - Program Director*

Randy Klein's Jazzheads is very entertaining. I got a kick out of this one as I love Dave Frishberg, Moe Allison, Jon Hendricks, Eddie Jefferson, etc and so on. Nicely done.

- *KCME-FM 88.1 Colorado Springs, Colorado, Lenny Mazel*

I found Randy Klein's lyrics to Jazzheads to be refreshingly funny in the midst of a jammin' rhythm section.

- *California Jazz Now Magazine M.O.R.E. Radio, Haybert Houston-*

Randy Klein should certainly be on his way to joining King Pleasure, Dave Frishberg and those other few souls who inhabit the tiny asteroid of original jazz lyric writing.

- *Dr. Nicholas Catalano, The Westsider, NY*

Randy Klein has followed through with a great and unique idea. Jazzheads is an extension of ideas from a forgotten era.

- *KTXK -Texarcana, TX, Jerry L. Atkins - Jazz Director*

Randy Klein's Jazzheads is very, very clever stuff - I love the voice and the alto - and you can understand the words, too. Very hip!"

- *Jazz on the Beach, Cocoa, FL syndicated radio show, Jack Simpson*

"Randy Klein's Jazzheads is a tasty full course musical meal with strong chord voicings, unusual lyrics and well-weathered New York swing"

- *Jazz Now---The Jazz World Magazine, Stella C. Brandt*