

PLAMEN KARADONEV

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CAREER OBJECTIVE

Piano/keyboard performance, composition, arranging, jazz and contemporary improvisation, world music, ensembles, music theory, music education.

EDUCATION

- Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA, BA, Piano Performance (Spring01-Fall06)
- State Academy of Music, Sofia, Bulgaria, Music Theory and Education/ Jazz Performance (1996 -2000)
- Quincy College - Quincy, MA, Associate in Arts (Summer 02 – Spring 04)
- Hristina Morfova School of Music, Stara Zagora, Bulgaria, Accordion performance (92 -96)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE and EMPLOYMENT

- Self-employed private instructor - piano, music theory, improvisation, composition, arranging (2001 – current)
- Solomon Schechter School, Newton, MA – piano, music theory teacher(2013-current)
- Union United Methodist Church, Boston, MA – music director/ pianist/ organist (2008 – current)
- Fabulous School of Music, Beverly, MA, piano, music theory teacher (03 - 07)
- First Baptist Church, Salem, MA – music director, pianist, organist (2003 – 2007)
- Needham Music, Needham, MA, piano, ear training private instructor (2004- 2006)
- Marblehead School of Music, MA, substitute teacher/rehearsal pianist - voice, piano, music theory(08 - 14)
- National Radio Big Band Orchestra, Sofia, Bulgaria – pianist (1998 -2000)
- New Bulgarian State University, Sofia, Bulgaria, rehearsal pianist, – Pop and Jazz studies program (96 - 01)

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Clubs/Concert venues: (1996 -2015) Berklee Performance Center, Jordan Hall, Riverside church(NYC), Hynes Convention Center, Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, Ryles Jazz Club , Lily-Pad, Outpost 186, Good Life, Vernisage, Les Zygomates, Jazz at Union Concert Series, Wally's Jazz Cafe, Sahara Jazz Club, The Beehive, Beat Hotel, The Java Room, The Taj, Hayatt Regency, Shelly's Jazz Club(NYC), Rudy's(NYC), Sugar Bar(NYC), Art Club - Sofia, Bulgaria, Studio I Bulgarian National Radio, National Palace of Culture, Sofia, Bulgaria, Bulgaria Hall, Sofia, BeeBop Jazz Club, Plovdiv, Bulgaria, Studio 5, Sofia Bulgaria, Swingin' Hall, Sofia Live Club and others

Festivals: Varna Summer -Varna, Bulgaria (2014, 99), International Jazz Fest - Bansko, Bulgaria (2014, 99), Falmouth Jazz Festival, Berklee Piano Week – Boston, MA (05), 4th Zeitgeist Piano Festival – Cambridge, MA (05, 07), Boston Gospel Fest(2003), International Folk Fest - Gap, France (00), International Arts Festival Apolonia- Sozopol, Bulgaria (94, 96, 98), International Jazz Fest- Sofia, Bulgaria (00), Sofia Jazz Fall - Sofia, Bulgaria(98, 99), International Jazz Fest - Plovdiv, Bulgaria(2009, 98, 96), Russe Jazz Fest – Russe, Bulgaria(97).

With Randy Brecker, Jimmy Cobb, Dave Liebman, George Garzone, Greg Hopkins, Jerry Bergonzi, Hal Crook, Gene Perla, Bulgarian National Radio Big Band, Bruce Gertz, Mike Tucker, Austin McMahan, Steve Langone, Theodosii Spassov and many others.

CLINICS/ WORKSHOPS

- Jazz Forum Stara Zagora, Bulgaria – Jazz Interpretation and Improvisation workshop 2009, 2015

MAJOR TEACHERS

- Joe Lovano, Laszlo Gardony, Tony Germain, Hal Crook, Dave Samuels, Joanne Brackeen, Peter Petrov

AWARDS

- JAZZ PERFORMANCE AWARD – BERKLEE COLLEGE, BOSTON, MA (2006)
- JAZZ PERFORMANCE AWARD – BERKLEE COLLEGE, BOSTON, MA (2005)
- *YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION*, CHIRPAN, BULGARIA - Second Prize (1994)
- *YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION*, CHIRPAN, BULGARIA - First Prize (1993)
- Berklee College scholarship (undergraduate level)
- Longy School of Music scholarship (graduate level)

DISCOGRAPHY

- Fifth Season Quartet – *Beyond Hope* with guest Jerry Bergonzi
Band leader, composer, pianist, co-producer 2014
- Plamen Karadonev – Contemporary Jazz Piano Accordion Project - composer, arranger, band leader 2011
- **Plamen Karadonev** “*Crossing Lines*“ - pianist, accordionist, composer, arranger, band leader, with Hal Crook George Garzone, and others, MU Records, Boston, MA 2008
- **Andrea Capozzoli**, “ *Winter Wonderland*“ – pianist 2006
- **Clara Lofaro**, “*Black + Blue Pearl*” -Cometrue Records, New York, NY
Pianist/ accordionist 2005
- **Zharava Folklore Formation** –“ *No Song Ford*” –
arranger/ band leader/ performer, 2002
Flash Poin Studios, St. Zagora, Bulgaria
- **Cari Peno Jazztet** pianist
Confuoco Music, Boston, MA 2003
- **Clara Lofaro** “ *Night Light*” pianist
Barry Marshall Productions, Boston, MA, 2002
- **Patricia and Ana Lucia Vlieg** “ *Tus Promesas*” - accordionist
Barry Marshall Productions, Boston, MA, 2002
- **Marcio Catunda** “*Noites Claras*” accordionist, pianist, band leader
Balkanton, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2000
- **Deliana Jeliaskova** “ *A Song In My Soul* “ - arranger, performer
Flash Point Studios , St. Zagora, Bulgaria, 2000
- **Bulgarian National Radio Big Band**, Sofia, Bulgaria
Participation in a number of recording sessions, televised performances, concerts and shows
featuring major Bulgarian and European artists. 98 -00
- **Borislav Yasenov** “ *The Crazy World*“ – pianist, composer
Riva Sound Records, Sofia, Bulgaria, 98
- **Chorus Jazz Quartet** “ *Mo'Di'Log'* “ – pianist
Riva Sound Records, Sofia, Bulgaria, 95

REFERENCES

Randy Brecker, Six time Grammy winner, jazz trumpeter - ranbop@aol.com
Jerry Bergonzi, New England Conservatory Faculty, Boston MA - bergonzijazz@gmail.com
Bert Seager – New England Conservatory Faculty, Boston MA - bert@bertseager.com
Laszlo Gardony – Berklee College of Music Faculty- lgardony@berklee.edu

LANGUAGES fluent in English and Bulgarian