

# MARK LEWIS INDUSTRY REVIEWS

"It's almost extraordinary the range of things he's capable of doing. You listen to the guys with the primo recording contracts on the very top labels, and in my opinion, they're not in Mark's league."

"It doesn't matter what kind of jazz you like. Want to swing like Lester Young? Ratchet up the rhythmic intensity with Birdlike bop? Dig soul-splitting clarity a la Stan Getz? Lewis is your man."

"Mark combines all the attributes that I look for in a great jazz musician. For one, he has exceptional technical command of his instruments. Secondly, he is endlessly inventive and creative in the way he plays music. Third, he's able to put his own personal stamp on everything he plays. Very rarely do you encounter musicians who can succeed on all three of those levels."

"I feel [that Mark] is one of the most lyrical and emotionally committed saxophonists of his generation."

- **Ted Gioia, jazz critic, author "How to Listen to Jazz"**

"How refreshing to hear an altoist bearing the influences of such consummate lyricists as Paul Desmond and Lee Konitz. This is music whose 'coolness' sears."

- **JazzTimes**

"Mark Lewis is a Northwest treasure. He's devoted years to honing his skills on saxes & flute and it shows in his tone and execution. He's also a catalyst who makes things happen on stage, inspiring everyone who plays with him. He deserves wider recognition."

- **Jim Wilke, radio host, Jazz Northwest**

"Tucked away in a dark underground bar.. we found the brightest ray of light. Mark Lewis creating joy. We all knew we were experiencing greatness."

- **Jen Clark, The Leader Newspaper, Pt Townsend, WA**

"We truly enjoyed the concert – it was one of our best yet!"

- **Anna Miller, Exec. Director, Bremerton Symphony Assoc.**

"A fantastic player."

- **Ron Netsky, Rochester City Newspaper, NY**

"A wonderful, gifted saxophonist and creative original, Lewis has been an important influence in the upsurge of local musicians attempting to find their own unique jazz voice."

- **Times Colonist, Victoria, BC**

"Mark Lewis plays an alto saxophone with a sound that could cut through steel like a laser beam. Yet, you always know there is a passionate human being that cares behind that compelling tone."

- **Bud Young, Bud's Jazz Records / KBCS Radio**

"What a GREAT GREAT show this was!"

- **Rich Tews, Exec. Director, Jazz in the Hills, Fountain Hills, AZ**

"I enjoyed the music very much and so did the audience. I'll book him again."

- **Gloria Cadena, The Lighthouse, Hermosa Beach, CA**

"He is a master of the modern bop vocabulary, but is not humorless and cliché-bound as so many of his contemporaries are."

- **De Telegraaf, Amsterdam (translation from Dutch)**

"Mark's sound is the truth. It is tempered with real world experiences and embodies world cultures and a track record of victory which comes out of his horn."

- **Bobby Watson, jazz saxophonist**

"Mark Lewis is a musician who is truly dedicated and cares 100 percent about the quality of music he plays. There are not a lot of people like that, unfortunately."

- **David Friesen, jazz bassist**

"Mark Lewis is a phenomenal saxophonist and composer! He is a contemporary player who has the soul of an old musician steeped in the full traditions of jazz. It is a joy to work with Mark Lewis!"

- **Barney McClure, jazz pianist**

"In addition to being a dear friend, a most compassionate human being, Mark Lewis is a consummate performer and one of the most dedicated musical virtuosos I have ever known and had the pleasure of performing with for many years."

- **Overton Berry, jazz pianist, Seattle Jazz Hall of Fame**

"Time after time I have been witness to his ability to touch and move the listener in a way that is seldom seen."

- **James Long, jazz bassist, the Netherlands**

"Mark is a great player, a great guy and a joy to play with. He is brilliant."

- **Mike Renzi, jazz pianist**

"a great player"

- **Greg Abate, jazz saxophonist, Rhode Island Jazz Hall of Fame**

"Mark is one of the most incredible alto saxophonists I've heard in years."

- **Ann Hobson Pilot, former principal harpist, Boston Symphony Orchestra**

"Mark Lewis is a star, and an inspiration to me. He's just phenomenal and more people should know about him."

- **Herb Kloss, jazz flutist**

"Mark Lewis is high on my list of the top ten jazz alto saxophonists in the world."

- **Burt Jagolinzer, President, Newport Jazz Association, RI**

"It doesn't get any better than this."

- **Tom Kramer, The Majestic, Kansas City, MO**

"The highlight of our jazz series this year. By far."

- **Tom Vickery, Chinatown Jazz, Victoria, BC**

"His improvisations are thrilling and provocative, and he is constantly challenging the musicians around him."

- **Raul da Gama, World Music Report**