



Aaron Weinstein

AARON WEINSTEIN BIO

Called “the Groucho of the violin” by Tony Bennett and “a perfect musician” by jazz guitar legend, Bucky Pizzarelli, Aaron Weinstein “is rapidly establishing himself as one of his instrument’s rare jazz masters.” (Don Heckman, *International Review of Music*). As a featured soloist, Aaron has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Birdland, Blue Note, and abroad at jazz festivals in England, France, Switzerland, Iceland, and Israel. Aaron has performed and recorded with an array of jazz icons including: Les Paul, Bucky Pizzarelli, John Pizzarelli, Dick Hyman, Dave Frishberg, Jon Hendricks and Annie Ross as well as musicians as varied as New York Pops conductor, Skitch Henderson and rock guitarist, Jay Geils. He has written arrangements for vocalists including Christine Ebersole, Linda Lavin, and the Manhattan Transfer’s Janis Siegel. Additionally, Aaron is a respected mandolinist, widely regarded as one of the instrument’s leading exponents in the jazz idiom.

Aaron is the recipient of a New York City Nightlife Award and New York City Bistro Award. He is a graduate of the Berklee College of Music where he was awarded a full four-year talent-based scholarship. With the release of his Arbors Records debut, *A Handful of Stars*, (called “the rebirth of the hot jazz violin” by Nat Hentoff) Aaron became the youngest jazz musician to have recorded for this prestigious jazz record label. Additionally, Aaron is a bow tie rights activist. He is also lactose intolerant but can find at least one agreeable item on any restaurant menu, a feat he’s called, “my greatest talent.” Aaron lives in New York City.

PRAISE FOR AARON WEINSTEIN

"He is one in a million, this kid, a perfect musician. He's always coming up with something different just when you think you know everything he does."

-Bucky Pizzarelli, luminary jazz guitarist

"The Groucho of the violin."

-Tony Bennett

"One of his instrument's rare jazz masters."

-Don Heckman, "The International Review of Music"

"Genius jazz violinist Aaron Weinstein has impeccable control of his cooperative fiddle...he's an arranger with mesmerizingly fresh notions and he introduces his music and comments on it with a knee-slapping mock-tentative delivery that establishes him hands-down as the 21st-century Jack Benny.

-David Finkle, "Huffington Post"

"Aaron should bring renewed interest to the often overlooked heritage of the jazz violin while heralding the advent of an unmistakably personal improviser who can be intimately tender...as well as so fiercely invigorating that you have to move to his music. Aaron's playing transcends current self-conscious attempts to reach 'the cutting edge' and instead achieves the joyous act of communion that has made jazz an international language."

-Nat Hentoff, "Wall Street Journal"

“If I didn’t hear and see him myself I wouldn’t believe it. He’s out of sight! He’s a genius!”

-Jon Hendricks, jazz legend and father of vocalese

"Woody Allen would have been proud to have invented the character of American jazz violinist and diffident comedian Aaron Weinstein. In fact it would be hard to prove with any certainty that he didn't. Wisecracking violinists are a trope in American culture, on which Aaron Weinstein provides his own, pleasing, original take."

-“London Jazz News”

“A sensational talent in the tradition of Stéphane Grappelli and Joe Venuti, Mr. Weinstein, is an inventive melodic improviser who doesn’t go in for flashy gymnastic flourishes...He’s turned “Just One of Those Things” into a mini-marathon of swinging endurance, at the end of which you were left a little breathless.”

-Stephen Holden, “New York Times”

“He eats, sleeps, and breaths songs, and you never know what he’s going to do next, but he somehow miraculously makes music exciting-and keeps the audience in stitches at the same time.”

-Rex Reed, “New York Observer”