



MICHAEL BRECKER

Tenor saxophonist and composer Michael Brecker is an eleven-time Grammy-winner, and the only person to win both the "Best Jazz Instrumental Performance" and "Best Jazz Instrumental Solo" awards two years in a row. As a result of his stylistic and harmonic innovations, Michael is among the most studied instrumentalists in music schools throughout the world today.

Born in Philadelphia in 1949, Michael co-founded the pioneering jazz-rock group **Dreams** in 1970. He later joined his brother, trumpeter Randy Brecker in **Horace Silver's** quintet. The siblings then formed the **Brecker Brothers**, one of the most innovative jazz-funk fusion bands of the decade. Brecker was then the co-leader of the all-star quartet **Steps Ahead**.

Michael has recorded and performed with a virtual Who's Who of jazz and pop giants in the 70s and 80s, including **McCoy Tyner, Bruce Springsteen, Herbie Hancock, Steely Dan, Chick Corea, Charles Mingus, Joni Mitchell, Chet Baker, Parliament Funkadelic, Jaco Pastorius, Paul Simon, Frank Sinatra, Frank Zappa, Aretha Franklin,** and **Pat Metheny**. Michael cut his first record as a leader in 1987.

The solo debut, *Michael Brecker*, was voted "Jazz Album of the Year" in both *Down Beat* and *Jazziz* magazines. Its follow-up, *Don't Try This At Home*, garnered Brecker his first Grammy. After being a featured soloist for a year and a half with **Paul Simon**, Michael reunited with Randy for the *Return of the Brecker Brothers*. The Breckers' *Out of the Loop* (1994) and Michael's *Tales From the Hudson* (1997) put additional Grammys on the saxophonist's shelf. At about the same time, Michael appeared on **Herbie Hancock's** *The New Standard* (Verve) and **McCoy Tyner's** *Infinity* (Impulse!), followed by extensive touring with each piano titan.

Brecker's accomplishments assure that his career will forever be intertwined with the history of music. *Jazziz* magazine said it best: "You'll find no better example of stylistic evolution than Michael Brecker, inarguably the most influential tenor stylist of the last 25 years."