

SYLVIE COURVOISIER

Winner of the “Grand Prix de la Fondation Vaudoise pour la culture en 2010 “ and of the NYFA (New York Foundation For the Art) Music/sound in 2013.

| Sylvie Courvoisier is a pianist , composer, sideman and band leader. Born in Lausanne, Switzerland , Courvoisier moved to New York in 1998 and has lived in Brooklyn since that time. Courvoisier has led several groups over the years and has recorded over 40 records for different labels, notably ECM , Tzadik and Intakt records.

She has performed and recorded with John Zorn, Mark Feldman, Yusef Lateef, Ikue Mori, Tony Oxley, Tim Berne, Joey Baron, Joëlle Léandre, Herb Robertson, Butch Morris, Evan Parker, Mark Dresser, Ellery Eskelin, Lotte Anker, Fred Frith, Michel Godard, Tomasz Stanko among others.

She has been commissioned to write music for concerts, radio, dance and theater. Her works include:” Concerto for electric guitar and chamber orchestra”; "Balbutiements" for vocal quartet and soprano. Commissions include the Vidy Theater of Lausanne, Pro Helvetia and Germany's Donaueschingen Musiktage Festival.

Her latest releases as a leader are: ABATON with Mark Feldman and Erik Friedlander on ECM Records (2004), a solo piano album, SIGNS AND EPIGRAMS, on Tzadik Records (2007), LONELYVILLE with her quintet on Intakt Records (2008), and two quartet albums "TO FLY TO STEAL" (2010) + "HOTEL DU NORD" (2011) on Intakt Records and a duo album with Mark Feldman " OBLIVIA" on Tzadik Records (2010) and “Live at Theater Vidy-Lausanne” on Intakt (2013)

Since 1995, she has been touring widely with her own groups and as a side person in USA, Canada, Japan and Europe .

Currently, she co-leads the Sylvie Courvoisier/Mark Feldman Quartet with Scott Colley and Billy Mintz.

She also is the leader of her own quintet "Lonelyville" and her new Trio with Kenny Wollesen and Drew Gress.

She performs regularly alone and in duo with violinist Mark Feldman.

She is a member of Mephista, an improvising trio with Ikue Mori and Susie Ibarra;” ; and play in another improving Trio along with Ellery Eskelin and Vincent Courtois; Since 2010, she has been working as a pianist and composer with the new project of the flamenco dancer Israel Galvan "la Curva"

| **Awards** include Switzerland's 1996 Prix des jeunes créateurs , Zonta Club's 2000 Prix de la Création, Switzerland's 2010 Grand Prix de la Fondation Vaudoise de la Culture and

2013's NYFA (New York Foundation For the Art)

| Selected Discography:

LIVE AT THEATRE VIDY-LAUSANNE - Sylvie Courvoisier - Mark Feldman Duo (Intakt 2013)
CLAWS & WINGS - Erik Friedlander - Ikue Mori - Sylvie Courvoisier (2013)
HOTEL DU NORD -Sylvie Courvoisier Mark Feldman Quartet (Intakt 2011)
TO FLY TO STEAL- Sylvie Courvoisier Mark Feldman Quartet (Intakt 2010)
OBLIVIA -Mark Feldman & Sylvie Courvoisier- (Tzadik 2010)
DICTEE/LIBER NOVUS- John Zorn(Tzadik 2010)
FEMINA- John Zorn (Tzadik 2009)
LONELYVILLE- Sylvie Courvoisier Quintet with Mori, Feldman, Courtois, Cleaver (Intakt 2008)
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE- Courtois, Courvoisier & Eskelin (Cam Jazz 2008)
EVERY SO OFTEN - Ellery Eskelin & Sylvie Courvoisier (Prime Source 2008)
SIGNS AND EPIGRAMS-Sylvie Courvoisier solo (Tzadik2007)
REAL ABERATION-Herb Robertson -NY Downtown Allstars-(clean Feed 2007)
MALPHAS - Mark Feldman Sylvie Courvoisier, music of John Zorn-Book of Angels-(Tzadik 2006)
MASADA RECITAL -Sylvie Courvoisier & Mark Feldman , music of John Zorn (Tzadik 2004)
ABATON – Sylvie Courvoisier TRIO feat. Feldman, Friedlander (ECM Records, 2cd 2004)
ENTOMOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS - Mephista (Courvoisier, Mori, Ibarra) (Tzadik 2004)
BLACK NARCISSUS- Mephista (Courvoisier, Mori, Ibarra) (Tzadik 2002)
COBRA- John Zorn (Tzadik, 2002)
DEUX PIANOS- Sylvie Courvoisier , Jacques Demierre (Intakt, 2000)
Y2K - Sylvie Courvoisier Ocre (Enja Records, 2000)
MUSIC FOR VIOLIN AND PIANO - Sylvie Courvoisier, Mark Feldman (Avan Records, 1999)
MUSIC FOR BARREL ORGAN, PIANO, TUBA, BASS AND PERCUSSION - Sylvie Courvoisier Ocre (Enja, 1997)

Mark Feldman

Jazz/Classical/Improvisational Violinist and Composer

Mark Feldman began challenging norms and expectations at the ripe age of nine. The Brooklyn-based musician made a name for himself by using the traditionally classical, high-brow violin to reject musical convention in favor of a style that melds several genres: jazz, classical, and improvisation.

“I’m trying to continue the tradition of the violin as it is historically known, to continue the tradition of composer/performer/improviser that’s been somewhat lost,” said Feldman. This unconventional approach has caught the attention of others; Feldman has recorded with the likes of Willie Nelson, John Zorn, Michael Brecker, John

Abercrombie, Billy Hart, Chris Potter, Sylvie Courvoisier, Lee Konitz, Dave Douglas, Tim Berne and Johnny Cash. One of his string quartets was also commissioned and performed by the prestigious Kronos Quartet.

Feldman most often can be found performing with John Zorn's Masada String Trio, or Zorn's Bar Kokhba Septet or in the John Abercrombie Quartet or in Duo with pianist-composer Sylvie Courvoisier or Leading his own Quartet performing music from his ECM Release "What Exit"

Feldman has performed as a violin soloist with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra of Amsterdam, The Het Barbants Orkest of Eindhoven Holland and the WDR Radio Orchestra of Cologne, Germany – all three Orchestras commissioned concertos especially for Feldman to perform. He has also brought his unique style to Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Barbican Hall, the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées and The Montreal, Montreux, Berlin Jazz Festivals.

Striving to push his music to new heights, Feldman recognizes that the impact of art and music on society can be great, "if for a moment or two people can entertain ideas that they might never have considered." Through his music, he seeks to change the perception of a "truly serious violinist" from someone whose focus is strictly the music of Mozart and Beethoven to a person who composes his or her own music or incorporates improvisation and multiple genres.

The Chicago native was not born into a musical family; he received bongo drums — not the harp he requested — as his first childhood musical instrument. Feldman first became "enchanted" with the violin while studying with a particularly inspiring music teacher at his public elementary school. After a year of classical lessons at age nine, he knew that music was his life work. He was performing with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago before his 20th birthday and was a member of the Nashville Symphony by age 25.

In 1986, Feldman relocated to New York. The constant inspiration of being around so much great work in New York, according to Feldman, cannot be matched anywhere else in the world. It is in this context of diverse and eclectic mix of people and art forms that he challenges mainstream music's content and importance, in order "to demonstrate that music outside of 'popular' culture can be visceral, absorbing and meaningful — and have a real place in the life of anyone who makes a small effort to meet the music halfway."

Feldman cites his first solo album, released in 1995, as the point when he truly began to "codify his own vocabulary." Music for Violin Alone (Tzadik), and the two albums that followed, Book of Tells (Enja) and What Exit (ECM), were met with critical praise, celebrating Feldman as "avant-garde," "virtuosic" and "promiscuous." His work has been described as so challenging for how it "combines the unusual with the familiar."

In 2003 Feldman received a Grammy Certificate for his performance on Michael Brecker's Album "Wide Angles" and in 2007 Feldman was the winner of the "Alpert Award in the Arts"

