





The Knights Tempo

PO Box 46692 Bedford, Ohio 44146 • www.theknightstempo.com
216-702-7107 (Brian) • 440-667-4583 (Bob) • booking@theknightstempo.com



The Knights Tempo Recording Their First CD, *Adventures and Romance*

The Knights Tempo
PO Box 46692
Bedford, Ohio 44146
www.theknightstempo.com
216-702-7107 (Brian)
440-667-4583 (Bob)
booking@theknightstempo.com

Band Biography

The Knights Tempo are an acoustic quartet who play mostly original material. All the pieces are instrumental—a nice change away from the focus on singing that has become commonplace in popular music. Their performances feature an ensemble of instruments that are somewhat foreign to the jazz idiom the music evokes. *The Knights* include mandolinist and composer Robert Rericha, Brian Jacobs on guitar, keyboardist John Marting, and Edward Lemmers on upright bass.

Though this is not the standard jazz combo, *The Knights Tempo* perform a repertoire of jazz ballads and upbeat tunes with a blues, swing, or bossa nova feel. They have something in common with West Coast Cool. Their sound is similar to lushly orchestrated jazz ballads, but in an instrumental quartet setting, it's reduced to the essentials.

Bob Rericha's compositions include sophisticated harmonies and key changes as well as inventive melodies. Harmonically, the pieces deviate from standard jazz progressions. Rericha explains, "People ask me all the time, 'Where do you get those chord progressions?' I tell them, 'Well, I studied classical as well as jazz composition for years.'" In fact, all the members of *The Knights Tempo* have had some classical training. And this broad perspective shows in the way the other members of the group have embraced Rericha's compositions. Far more sophisticated than most folk or easy-listening works, the tunes are also more accessible than a lot of jazz, proving that intelligent compositions do not have to be hard to understand.

The listener will notice right away that *The Knights Tempo* style includes a combination of sounds that is more common to ethnic or folk music. But, though the band draws on many influences, they do not play in a bluegrass or world beat style. Their sound is not new age, nor is it smooth jazz. At once classic and contemporary, *The Knights Tempo* sound is a jazzy, romantic, upbeat, and engaging sound that is all their own.

The choice of traditionally stringed instruments—mandolin, classical guitar, bass-violin and piano—has a lot to do with the distinctiveness of the band's sound. All four members play chords, rhythms, and melodies. And the acoustic instruments make for a warmer and quieter sound. Even though the keyboard is electronic and Lemmers sometimes picks up a seven-stringed electric bass, the music sits well in small venues like a restaurant or art gallery, and still works nicely on stage.

So far, *The Knights Tempo* have proven to be popular with a wide audience. "I remember one time," Jacobs recalls, "when Bob and I were practicing at the local art center, and out of nowhere a little child came out dancing to 'Baby Dinosaurs' as we were playing. Bob couldn't see from where he was sitting, but I was by the door looking out into the hall, and she was happily dancing to the music. She couldn't have been more than two." People say they listen to *The Knight's* first CD over and over in their homes and while driving their cars. And it may be the only CD that every generation in the household wants to listen to. The music is uplifting and danceable and it also has a romantic and sentimental side to it. Don't think, however, that this is merely mood music. *The Knights Tempo* create a pleasant atmosphere, but they can and do swing as evidenced by songs such as "Frankie's Hat" or "Snake Dance."

It's the irresistible melodies that most people mention when describing *The Knights Tempo's* music. Though the pieces have no words, all the songs have strong melodies that make them absorbing and memorable. "Whatever tune we play last," guitarist Jacobs says, "sticks in my head for some time after a practice or performance. I usually end up humming it for an hour." Just listen to "They Knew," "Nebuchednezzar's Bop," or "Roxanne" and you'll be hooked.

Copyright ©2007
The Knights Tempo, Inc.
All Rights Reserved.



The Knights Tempo

PO Box 46692 Bedford, Ohio 44146 • www.theknightstempo.com
216-702-7107 (Brian) • 440-667-4583 (Bob) • booking@theknightstempo.com

Musician Biographies

Robert Rericha • Mandolin

Bob started studying and playing music at age ten. He studied a variety of instruments, but his main instrument was the guitar. A few years ago, he added the mandolin and plays it almost exclusively now.

Bob studied composition for many years and his teachers include: Phil Rizzo, Dr. Richard Franks, David Gooding and Libby Larsen. He writes in a variety of genres. Bob plays a Dean fsf mandolin and has several guitars. His favorite mandolinists are Mike Marshall and Romeo Fascione, (his teacher).

Brian Jacobs • Traditional Guitar

Brian has been playing guitar for over 25 years. His interests in a wide range of music led him to choose the classical guitar and a loose finger style as his instrument and method of playing. Brian studied folk, jazz, and classical guitar with private teachers in Seattle, Cleveland, and Athens, Ohio.

Aside from occasional performances in these cities, Brian has chosen, until recently, to play for his own enjoyment, while focusing his professional activity in the visual arts world. Trained in fine arts since he was a child, Brian holds a BFA in printmaking and an MA in painting. His paintings can regularly be seen on display at group shows throughout the Cleveland area.

John Marting • Electronic Keyboard

John has over 30 years of professional music experience. He began classical training at age 6. After he discovered rock and jazz in his teens, John played in various size groups from duos to big band in the New York Tri-State area. John moved to San Antonio, Texas in the 80's where he performed in the country-western, texas-swing, and Hispanic styles and backed Johnny Rodriguez and Freddy Fender.

In 1992 John was awarded the Outstanding Musicianship Award when he played with Kenny Burrell at the Tri-C Jazz Festival. John toured with the Logan Wells *Tribute to Patsy Cline Show* including performances at the Hilton Las Vegas opening for Brad Paisley and Sara Evans.

Edward Lemmers • Upright Bass, Seven-String Electric Bass

As a child, Edward was classically trained on trumpet. He took up the bass guitar in high school, and later played with the *Cleveland State University Jazz Band* under the direction of Howie Smith. While at CSU he started playing the upright bass. Edward has played with numerous other bands in Cleveland including *In Flight*, *Tantric Pulse*, *The Green Street Trio*, *The Allen-Keith Band*, *The Reid Project*, *Oldies but Goodies*, *Tangents*, and *Full Circle*.

Currently, Edward is also the leader of *Eclectic Vision* and bassist in the *SwingTime Big Band* and at *Unity of Greater Cleveland*. Edward has recorded with *Eclectic Vision*, *Greg Benedetto* and *Chris White*, among others. As the owner and recording engineer for *Visionary Mantra Studios*, he recorded and engineered both of *The Knights Tempo* CD's.

The Knights Tempo

PO Box 46692 Bedford, Ohio 44146 • www.theknightstempo.com
216-702-7107 (Brian) • 440-667-4583 (Bob) • booking@theknightstempo.com

Sample Song List

Just For You	Up Tempo	Original
Brian Said	Swing	Original
Frankie's Hat	Blues	Original
Restless Night	Latin	Original
When You're in Love	Ballad	Original
Misty	Jazz	Standard
Grooved Ware People, The	Swing	Original
Lady Sarah's Dig	Swing	Original
Too Clean	30's Blues	Original
Bird Dance	Jazz	Original
Dance of the Ho Tekton	Up Tempo	Original
Lay There and Smile	Ballad	Original
Far-World, The	Slow Jazz	Original
Autumn Leaves	Ballad	Standard
Ed's Easy Swing	Swing	Original
Roxanne	Blues Based	Original
They Knew	Latin	Original
Baby Dinosaurs	Swing	Original
Harry's Song	Ballad	Original
Caravan	Latin Swing	Standard
Al's Tune	Blues	Original
Für Melody	Jazz	Original
Do That Thing	Up Tempo	Original
Doll, The	Swing	Original
For Dolores	Latin	Original
Cry Me a River	Ballad	Standard
Notes on the Cliff	Swing	Original
Blues for Suzy	Blues	Original
Stone Age Dig, The	Jazz	Original
In Moonlight	Ballad	Original
Lost Poets	Slow Jazz	Original
Besame Mucho	Latin	Standard
Snake Dance	Blues	Original
Nebuchadnezzar's Bop	Jazz	Original
Sea Dream	Latin	Original
Rain on Stained Glass	Ballad	Original
Kites	Slow Jazz	Original
Witchcraft	Swing	Standard
Romeo's Guitar	Swing	Original

[The Knights Tempo Web Site](#)