



## Mike Downes Quartet

mike@mikedownes.com • www.mikedownes.com



**The Mike Downes Quartet** has been performing in various incarnations since the mid-90s. The Toronto-based group features a powerhouse of some of the top jazz musicians in Canada. The music is contemporary with a great respect for the jazz tradition. Mike has released five recordings as a leader, including 2013s *Ripple Effect* on Addo Records. This new recording features Mike Downes (bass), Robi Botos (piano), Ted Quinlan (guitar) and Ethan Ardelli (drums).

"As gifted a composer as he is a bassist." - *Chris Kosky, International Society of Bassists*

"Ripple Effect is a beautifully layered textural conversation with a trio performing as one harmonic train of thought... The technique and interplay between Downes and pianist Robi Botos is remarkable as their own lyrical visions become intertwined within each piece." *Brent Black, Bop-N-Jazz*

"The four men share common musical tastes and, equally important, there is a spirit of camaraderie and a certain indescribable chemistry." - *Nick Miliokas, the Leader Post*

"Bright musical imaginations at full stretch." - *Geoff Chapman, the Toronto Star*

### Contact

If you are interested in booking the Mike Downes Quartet or would like further information, please send an email to [mike@mikedownes.com](mailto:mike@mikedownes.com) or call 416-253-8433.

More information can be found at:

[mikedownes.com](http://mikedownes.com)  
[addorecords.com](http://addorecords.com)  
[soundcloud.com/mike-downes-m-music](https://soundcloud.com/mike-downes-m-music)  
[youtube.com/user/mikedownesbass](https://youtube.com/user/mikedownesbass)

### Band bios

**Mike Downes**

"Mike's time playing is delightfully inventive...his lines are clear, hip, and agile. His technique and intonation are extraordinary." - *Kim Richmond, Jazz Player Magazine*

"Emotionally direct, profoundly lyrical bass work." - *Stuart Broomer, The Whole Note*

Mike Downes has earned a reputation as one of Canada's finest jazz artists. He has been active as a bassist, composer, arranger and educator in the Canadian music scene since the early 1980s.

His musicality, emotional depth and melodic approach to the bass have thrilled audiences in Europe, Japan, South Korea, Brazil, Mexico, Iceland, the United States and Canada. In addition to leading his own groups, Mike has performed with virtually all of Canada's top jazz musicians, including Oliver Jones, Diana Krall, PJ Perry, Renee Rosnes, Don Thompson, Kirk MacDonald, Terry Clarke, Guido Basso and Pat LaBarbera. He has been in demand to perform with visiting jazz artists such as Chris Potter, Michael Brecker, John Abercrombie, Peter Erskine, Kenny Wheeler, John Taylor, Paquito D'Rivera, Dave Liebman, Billy Hart, Phil Woods, Jack DeJohnette and many others.

His large discography includes Juno-nominated and Juno-winning CDs. He has released five recordings as a leader - Forces, Then, The Winds of Change, Ripple Effect and In the Current.

Mike is the Bass Department Head at Humber College in Toronto. He has also been featured as a Yamaha artist/clinician throughout Canada, at the Paekche Institute in Seoul, South Korea and the infamous Conservatoire de Paris. Mike is the author of The Jazz Bass Line Book (Advance Music) and co-author of Jazz and Contemporary Music Theory.

For more information please visit [www.mikedownes.com](http://www.mikedownes.com).

**Robi Botos** began his music career as a child in Hungary. He immigrated to Canada in 1998 and has since made his mark as one of the most sought-after pianists on the scene. He has been featured with many local and international greats including: Chaka Khan, Al Jarreau, Michael & Randy Brecker, Branford Marsalis, Tim Ries, Darryl Jones, Lisa Fischer, Pat LaBarbera, Marcus Belgrave, Steve Gadd, Molly Johnson, Terri Lyne Carrington, James Blood Ulmer, Nikki Yanofsky, Sophie Milman, Vernon Reid, Donald Walden, Roberta Gambarini, Jake Hannah, Peter Appleyard, Jackie Richardson, Vito Rezza, Vinnie Colaiuta, Dave Young, Joey DeFrancesco and many more. He has won numerous awards including first prize in the International Montreux Jazz Festival's solo piano competition in 2004.

**Ted Quinlan** is respected as one of Canada's most multi-faceted jazz musicians, highly skilled as a solo jazz guitarist, session player, writer, and dedicated educator. He is a sought-after sideman, frequently appearing with the "who's who" of Canadian jazz artists on concert stages, in clubs, and in jazz festivals from coast-to-coast. Throughout his abiding career, he has performed with some of the biggest international jazz stars including Freddie Baker, Chet Baker, Eddie Harris, Jimmy Smith, and Joey DeFrancesco. His recording credits are numerous, highlighted by performances on Doug Riley's famous Con Alma CD "Con Alma" and as one of six major Canadian jazz guitarists featured on Radioland Records' compilation CD A Tribute to Wes Montgomery. As an important jazz educator, Ted Quinlan is the long-time head of the Guitar Humber at Humber College, one of North America's most respected Jazz Studies institutions.

**Ethan Ardelli** is currently a freelancing musician in Toronto's vibrant music scene. Ethan graduated from the University of Toronto, Faculty of Music Jazz Program in 2006. Since graduating, he has had the opportunity to perform with David Virelles, Kieran Overs, Nancy Walker, Kevin Turcotte, Mike Murley, Don Thompson, Reg Schwager and Phil Dwyer to name a few. In October 2005, Ethan played on Jane Bunnett's cd "Radio Guantanamo" which featured jazz legends Dewey Redman and Howard Johnson. This album won the Juno for Contemporary Jazz Album of the Year in 2006. Ethan was also a member of the David Virelles Quintet. This group received the Grand Prix de Jazz at the Montreal International Jazz Festival in July 2006. David Virelles' first album "Motion" features Mark Turner on tenor saxophone. Ethan is also featured on William Carns' "Run Stop Run", Nancy Walker's "New Hieroglyphics", and Darren Sigsmond's "Strands 2".