



## Nick Smith, well

known as a Jazz Pianist, is also skilled at several other musical genres including Latin, Rhythm & Blues, Rock, and Country. His imposing talent in diverse musical environments reflects Nick's passion for excellence and his mastery of all aspects of his craft, from performing to composing to producing. Nick is devoted to providing performances that adhere to the correct form of the composition with persistently lyrical, stratospheric comping.

An alumnus of Berklee College of Music, Nick was a member of the Jay Leno Tonight Show Band. Nick has scored for film and TV and recorded with over 20 artists. His catalog of original compositions features Straight Ahead,

Fusion, and Contemporary Jazz, Rock, R&B, and Funk. Nick's previous CD projects, "INFLUENCED" and "It's Like That," are Straight Ahead Jazz. In December of 2015, Nick released "Black Chestnuts (The Christmas Song)." "Black Chestnuts" melds elements of Jazz and House music. His next CD, scheduled for release in 2016, focuses on Contemporary Jazz.

Although Nick considers music a great source of enjoyment, he also acknowledges that music is a serious business. He is a musician's musician—believing that there are only two types of music, good music and bad music. Nick has the firm conviction that one should always give their best. When he performs music, he gives his ALL. He considers Jazz a spiritual, versatile, and challenging art form. Some of the pianists that have influenced Nick are Herbie Hancock, Thelonious Monk, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, McCoy Tyner, William 'Red' Garland, Wynton Kelly, Art Tatum, Kenny Kirkland, Billy Childs, Oscar Peterson, and Errol Garner.

Nick's playing style is precise, free flowing, and rhythmically diverse. Nick believes that older musicians should reach out to younger musicians to promote their interest in the fundamentals of great music and provide guidance in increasing their skills. Nick supports several schools and charitable organizations. He has scored/arranged for a local high school Jazz band. Currently working on multiple projects, Nick always strives to give his audience the best show possible. As a mentor, he encourages the emphatic pursuit of excellence in performance and provides guidance through example.