

# MARY LOUISE KNUTSON

jazz pianist | composer

cd reviews

## ...for *In the Bubble*



- 3 weeks in JazzWeek's Top 10
- 19 weeks in JazzWeek's Top 50
- Favorite CDs of 2011 - JazzPolice.com
- Top 10 Twin Cities Albums - Star Tribune (Mpls-St. Paul)
- Top 10 Twin Cities Jazz CDs of 2011 - Bebopified.com
- Minnesota's Best 2011 Releases - City Pages (Mpls-St. Paul)
- Top CDs of 2011 - WHFC, Bel Air, MD
- Top CDs of 2011 - KIOS, Omaha Public Radio

*"Ranked in JazzWeek's Top 10, pianist Mary Louise Knutson's new trio CD, In the Bubble, showcases her warm soulful touch, tasteful arranging, and gift for composition. These ten will remain at the top of your playlist for years."*

**JAZZIZ Magazine**

*This is timeless, classic piano trio music, right up there with Bill Evans and Bill Charlap."*

**Pamela Espeland, Top 10 Twin Cities Albums, Star Tribune**

*"...a masterful combination of original works and new arrangements...Knutson's compositions are marked by exquisite melodies, emotive harmonies, shifting rhythms and an elegant touch that recalls McPartland, Arriale, and Jarrett."*

**Andrea Canter, JazzINK.com**

*"Her straight-ahead approach...spotlights her luminous work on the ivories, which is endearingly lyrical, sprightly, and rife with inventive nuances. She's been accurately compared to Bill Evans and Marian McPartland, with maybe the playful spirit of Vince Guaraldi thrown in."*

**Rick Mason, Critics' Picks, City Pages, Minneapolis-St. Paul**

*"In The Bubble is so good! Swinging, tender, rich, soulful and bursting with originality. Brilliant arrangements give way to originals that are both mesmerizing and moving. And that intro to Bluesette...wow!"*

**Ron Fundingsland, Radio host, KSUT, Ignacio, CO**

*"...a musician you'd make a beeline to hear if you were visiting Minneapolis."*

**George Fendel, Jazzscene Magazine**

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## ...for *Call Me When You Get There*



- 8 weeks in JazzWeek's Top 50
- Named Top New Jazz Instrumentalist, KWJL
- Earned Billboard Magazine composition awards for "Meridian" and "How Will I Know?"

*"Call Me When You Get There is...state-of-the-art piano-trio finery."*

**Owen Cordle, JazzTimes Magazine**

*"...an excellent pianist...she has a talent for coming up with fresh melodies. This is an impressive disc..."*

**Scott Yanow, LA Jazz Scene**

*"Knutson is the same kind of rookie that Ichiro Suzuki is - a proven winner..."*

**Tom Surowicz, Minneapolis Star Tribune**

*"Another example that major labels don't have all the exceptional jazz talent."*

**Jim Clark, Radio host, KUSD, South Dakota Public Radio**

*"There are always two CDs in my player, Bill Charlap's Written In the Stars and [Mary Louise Knutson's] Call Me When You Get There. They never miss."*

**Ron Fundingsland, KSUT Four Corners Public Radio, Ignacio, CO**

*"This album was awesome. The whole album is fresh, relaxing, and inspirational. If you love Jazz piano - this is an amazing find....a treasure for any jazz collection."*

**Fan review, Amazon.com**

*"Mary Louise Knutson has to be one of the most exciting and innovative artists to happen to jazz piano in quite some time. She shows the smoothness and feeling of a Bill Evans (probably the best ever). Let's hope that this is just the first of many more efforts from this fine artist."*

**Fan review, Amazon.com**

*"Listening to Knutson's signature piece is like eating chocolate mousse; smooth, rich and filling. Yumm."*

**Bob Friedman, Fan**

# MARY LOUISE KNUTSON

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## concert reviews

*"...a profound performer, talented composer...she treats every gig as if it were a command performance for the toniest crowd you could imagine."*

**Jeff Whitmill, Director, St. Barnabas Center for the Arts, Plymouth, MN**

*"This was - BY FAR - our best opening night ever! You left us in a rare state tonight. The three of you seemed incapable of doing anything that wasn't magnificent, astonishing and altogether delightful - what a great night!"*

**Jeff Whitmill, Director, St. Barnabas Center for the Arts, Plymouth, MN**

*"The audience was ecstatic about your solo performances as well as your collaborations...they were 'wowed' by your technical prowess as well as your engaging presentation style."*

**Jan Viktora, Director, More Conversations about Jazz, University of St. Thomas, Mpls, MN**

*"We have had the best reviews ever from the public! Thank you for the show it was great!"*

**Tom Nigbor, Director, The Park Theater, Hayward, WI**

*"It was an absolute delight to have you and your fellow musicians with us [opening for VP Walter Mondale]. You were a BIG hit with the audience, and I'd love to have all of you come back sometime during the next program year. Thank you again and again for providing such marvelous music for our Forum attendees! What a treat!"*

**Susan McKenna, Director, Westminster Town Hall Forum, Minneapolis, MN**

*"What a superb concert in every respect. You are so warm and welcoming you make your audience feel like you are in their living room - plus I love it when you tell folks the background of the composers. Your spirit of generosity, humility and kindness shines through in everything you do."*

**Madeleine Hart, Singer-songwriter, St. Paul, MN**

*"For the two hours during your show, I experienced one of the most sense awakening and soothing occasions I believe I've had in my life. The music you and the two gentlemen provided truly allowed me to escape and find pleasure in a venue I didn't really think was possible. I had heard people speaking of music transporting them to another place before; now I can truly understand the possibility in that. You have created a fan now in the wonderful sound of jazz music."*

**Blaine Maher, Fan, Shenandoah, IA**

*"Your personal concert on Thursday was just the relief and release I needed after a trying week of caring for elderly parents. In the middle of the evening, I realized that I'd completely forgotten my woes - it was wonderful!"*

**Margaret Tabar, Fan, Minneapolis, MN**

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## composition reviews

*"...Knutson's compositions are marked by exquisite melodies, emotive harmonies, shifting rhythms and an elegant touch that recalls McPartland, Arriale, and Jarrett."*

**Andrea Canter, JazzINK.com**

*"...an excellent pianist whose voicings sometimes recall Bill Evans...she has a talent for coming up with fresh melodies. This is an impressive disc..."*

**Scott Yanow, L.A. Jazz Scene**

*"Mary Louise Knutson is somewhat reminiscent of Marian McPartland with her combination of strength and lyricism, line and texture, fresh reconceptions and exciting, beautiful original melodies. Piano Jazz is alive and well in Minnesota!"*

**Andrea Canter, JazzPolice.com**

*"...five originals by Ms. Knutson, stellar pieces which lead me to hope she decides to pursue this course in her career..."*

**Kevin O'Connor, Radio host, KBEM, Minneapolis**

*"Brilliant arrangements give way to originals that are both mesmerizing and moving."*

**Ron Fundingsland, KSUT Host**

*"I like Knutson's CD, very nice mood, cool arrangements, and I particularly like her original tunes."*

**Ben Sidran, GoJazz Recording Artist**

*"I always find it very heartening to listen to a CD with writing that makes sense...to both the mind and the soul."*

**Anton Schwartz, Tenor Saxophonist, San Francisco Bay Area**

*"Listening to Knutson's signature piece is like eating chocolate mousse; smooth, rich and filling. Yumm!"*

**Bob Friedman, Fan**

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