

**DAVID KRAKAUER**  
classical biography

Internationally acclaimed clarinetist DAVID KRAKAUER occupies the unique position of being one of the world's leading exponents of Eastern European Jewish klezmer music, and at the same time is a major voice in classical music. Known for his mastery of myriad styles including avant-garde improvisation, Krakauer lies way beyond "cross-over". His best-selling classical and klezmer recordings further define his brilliant tone, virtuosity and imagination.

Krakauer is in demand worldwide as a guest soloist with the finest ensembles. He has appeared with the Tokyo, Kronos, Orion, and Emerson string quartets, plus as soloist with the Weimar Staatskapelle, the Dresdner Philharmonie, Orquesta Sinfonica del Barcelona, Orchestre Lamoureux, the Detroit Symphony, the Phoenix Symphony and the Brooklyn Philharmonic among many others. This month Krakauer was soloist with the Detroit in a world premiere of a clarinet concerto written for him by the young Polish composer Wlad Marhulets. Major classical summer festival appearances include Marlboro, Norfolk, and Aspen. With his band, *Klezmer Madness!*, he has redefined the klezmer genre writing new music and employing many diverse influences including jazz, funk, and hip-hop. Major appearances for *Klezmer Madness!* include Carnegie Hall, Saalfelden, Marciac and the Venice Biennale.

In the Spring of 2003 Krakauer performed at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall as soloist with the Kronos Quartet in a performance of their renowned collaboration on Osvaldo Golijov's *The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind*. Mr. Krakauer was invited to perform with his band in the Spring of 2004 for the inaugural season of Carnegie's new theater, Zankel Hall, in collaboration with renowned jazz pianist Uri Caine. Krakauer performed music written for him by Osvaldo Golijov for the BBC documentary *Holocaust, A Music Memorial from Auschwitz*, which won the International Emmy in the performance category (2005). He was guest artist on tour in 2006 with the Emerson String Quartet and in 2007-09 with the Orion String Quartet. As an artist who has consistently defied categorization, Krakauer has enjoyed major ongoing artistic collaborations with a tremendously diverse group of performers and composers including Dawn Upshaw, Itzak Perlman, Iva Bitova, John Zorn, Fred Wesley, the Klezmatics, David Del Tredici, John Cage, Socalled, George Tsontakis and Wlad Marhulets.

Krakauer's discography contains some of the most important klezmer recordings of the past decade including "The Twelve Tribes" (Label Bleu) that received the German Record Critic's Prize and "The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind" (Osvaldo Golijov and the Kronos Quartet/Nonesuch) that received the Diapason D'Or in France. Composers who have written major pieces for him include David del Tredici, Paul Moravec, Anthony Coleman and Wlad Marhulets.

Krakauer has had major profiles in The New York Times, The New Yorker, The International Herald Tribune, and Downbeat, Jazz Times, Jazzman, Jazziz and Chamber Music magazines. He is on the faculties of the Mannes College of Music of the New School University, the Manhattan School of Music and the Bard Conservatory of Music.

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