**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**TOR EINAR BEKKEN, f.1964.**

**Mellomila 91b**

**7018 Trondheim**

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**+47 92214390**

**EDUCATION:**

**2012: MA in English; thesis on African American poetry (NTNU)**

**1996: MA (“hovedfag”) in Musicology; thesis on the African American New Orleans piano tradition. (NTNU)**

**1989: Exam in Pedagogy and teaching (“ped.sem”) (NTNU)**

**1988: BA in Drama/Film/Theatre (NTNU)**

**WORK / EMPLOYMENT:**

**2015-present: Associate Professor of Music, ILU-NTNU, Trondheim.**

**2013-2015: Assistant professor of Music, Sør-Trøndelag University College (HiST)**

**2012-2013: English teacher, Strinda VGS, Trondheim, Norway**

**2006-2012: Piano teacher; Trondheim Cultural School (TKK)**

**2001-2006: Teacher (English/Music), Tråstad School, Kongsvinger, Norway**

**2000: Temporary position as lecturer in music, HiNT, Levanger Norway.**

**(Prior to 2000, work experience includes various teaching positions in schools and the Trondheim Cultural School, theatre project work for Trondheim kommune’s Culture Section, and an extensive freelance career as pianist/musician.)**

**FREELANCE WORK:**

**My freelance work is too extensive to be listed in detail. I have been a jazz musician on a professional level since around 1979-1980, and I have performed in a great variety of settings. The following will only be an excerpt.**

**Festivals appearances include (some festivals more than once):**

**Molde Jazz Festival, Kongsberg Jazz Festival, Notodden Blues Festival, Oslo Jazz Festival, Nidaros Blues Festival, Blues in Hell, Trondheim Jazz Festival, Olavsfestdagene, Osøren Jazz/Blues Festival, Dalane Blues, Blues Sur Seine (France), Gronau JazzFest (Germany), Chedigny (France), Wendelstein Jazz/Blues Festival (Germany).**

**Performances in jazz/blues clubs and other concert settings average 30 appearances a year. (See Cristin for references to performances 2013-present.)**

**SPECIAL APPEARANCE: Performed at the Royal Albert Hall, London, Nov 10, 2019, as part of The Norwegian Blues Adventure, featuring Knut Reiersrud, Vidar Busk, Amund Maarud, Richard Gjems, and others.**

**RECORDINGS: (35 in total)**

**The following recordings have been released in my name (Tor Einar Bekken or Dr Bekken) since 1995. The music is mainly solo piano, but also solo guitar and guitalele, and collaborations with other musicians as indicated. Most of the releases are available on Spotify, released by Sonor Records, BlueMood/Grappa or DrB Records. All have international distribution by Musikkoperatørene AS, Oslo.**

**2019**

**Dr Bekken Plays Blues Piano Especially For You**

**Help Us In The Hour Of Need (guitar)**

**Nine Dark Pieces (guitar)**

**Sisu Boogie (with Dag E Kittilsen)**

**Øra II – Solo Piano Improvisations**

**Øra I – Solo Piano Improvisations**

**2018**

**Dark Hour – Guitalele Improvisations, Vol 2**

**Illumination**

**PNO – Seven Piano Improvisations**

**PianoFolk – Folkemusikk fra Finnskogen**

**SPELL – Bekken & Gjems Live At Herr Nilsen**

**2017**

**Field Recordings – Guitalele Improvisations, Vol 1**

**Guitalele Blues**

**Munnspell fra Folkedjupet (solo harmonica)**

**Upright Piano – Live At Bar Moskus (SPELLEMANN nominee, blues)**

**2016**

**Going Back To New Orleans; (with Native American poet Thomas LaBlanc)**

**Sanctuary**

**Sisu (with spoken word by Magne Rimestad)**

**2015**

**Luxury**

**Silver Songs**

**Keys To The Kingdom**

**2014**

**Crescent City Impressions – Solo Piano**

**Molotov Cocktail Piano (*At my request, this recording is no longer available*.)**

**2013**

**Grand Piano**

**Slaveriet (with Richard Gjems)**

**Primitive Guitar Music**

**2012**

**Extended Blues**

**2011**

**JazzBluesRagtimeVaudeville (ukulele and vocals)**

**2009**

**Songs From A Forest (with Richard Gjems)**

**2008**

**Hardcore Piano**

**2006**

**Flood Street**

**2004**

**The Ticklers (with Bertil Jøreng)**

**2003**

**Got Milk If You Want It (with Georg M Reiss, Svein Aarbostad & Torstein Ellingsen)**

**2001**

**Train – Stone Blues Piano Vol 1**

**1995**

**The Naked Blues**

**OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION:**

**Columnist and reviewer for the Norwegian music magazine Blues News since 2002.**

**NOMINATIONS:**

**Nominated for SPELLEMANNSPRISEN (Norwegian ‘Grammy’) for the recording ‘Upright Piano– Live at bar Moskus’ (2017)**

**AWARDS:**

**Notodden Blues Festival Award (‘Bluesprisen’), 2019.**

**LINK:** **youtube.com/drbekken**