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About the Author

Tim Richards has been active on the jazz scene since the early 1980s and is best known for his leadership of the modern jazz group 'Spirit Level', formed in Bristol in 1979, which toured in almost every European country, playing original material in jazz clubs and at festivals opposite such names as Joe Zawinul, McCoy Tyner, Joe Henderson, Horace Silver, Miles Davis and Jan Garbarek.

In recent years he has won acclaim as a composer and arranger, in 1999 expanding 'Spirit Level' to a nine-piece band and renaming it 'Great Spirit'. This band has toured the UK several times with a line-up featuring some of London's best jazz musicians, many of whom are band leaders in their own right.

Tim also enjoys playing in the more traditional setting of the piano trio, with bass and drums, and has released two acclaimed CDs of standards, blues and originals on the 33 label (see below). The trio has delighted audiences from Istanbul to Inverness and continues to perform frequently.

Tim currently teaches jazz piano classes at London's Morley and Goldsmiths' Colleges. He has pieces in the Associated Board's jazz piano syllabus and also works for the AB as a jazz examiner.

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Selected Discography

Great Spirit 'Epistrophy'

33Jazz120 (2005)

Nine-piece band featuring Jason Yarde, Ed Jones, Tony Kofi, Dick Pearce, Roger Beaujolais, Leon Stenning, Tom Herbert, Seb Rochford.

Tim Richards Trio 'Twelve by Three'

33Jazz72 (2003)

With Dominic Howles (bass) and Matt Home (drums) – the rhythm section on the CD for this book. Includes *Twelve by Three*.

Great Spirit/Best of Spirit Level 1979–1990 (2 CDs)

33Jazz051 (1999)

Nine-piece band featuring Gilad Atzmon, Denys Baptiste, Tony Kofi, Dick Pearce, Roger Beaujolais, Dave Colton, Davide Mantovani, Dave Ohm. Includes *The Lost Valley*.

Spirit Level quintet/quartet tracks feature Paul Dunmall or Jerry Underwood (sax), Dave Holdsworth or Jack Walrath (trumpet). Includes *Dustbiter*, *Orinoco*.

Tim Richards' & Sigi Finkel's Soundscape 'Shibop'

FMR CD61-0499 (1999)

Quartet with Vienna-based saxophonist (Austrian 'Jazz Musician of the Year' 2000), Phil Scragg (bass), Marc Parnell (drums).

Tim Richards Trio 'The Other Side'

33Jazz037 (1998)

With Kubryk Townsend (bass) and Kenrick Rowe or Andrea Trillo (drums). Includes *Beautiful Love*, *Caravan*, *Coincidence Calypso*.

Sigi Finkel & Tim Richards 'Dervish Dances'

ORF CD155 - Edition Jazz Austria (1997)

Saxophone and piano duets. Includes *Seventh Heaven*.

Spirit Level 'On The Level'

33Jazz021 (1994)

Quartet with saxophonist Jerry Underwood. Includes *Y Todavía la Quiero*, *Seventh Heaven*.

33 Records are an independent label specialising in the best of British jazz, with more than 200 CDs available, covering a wide range of artists including: John Altman, Damon Brown, Pete Churchill, Tony Coe, Pat Crumley, Jonathan Gee, Louise Gibbs, Mike Gorman, Michael Hashim, Dick Heckstall-Smith, Nikki Isles, Juliet Kelly, Hans Koller, Karen Lane, Tina May, Maggie Nicols, Brian Priestley, Karen Sharpe, Martin Speake, Scott Stroman, Clarke Tracey, Stan Tracey, Theo Travis, Andrea Vicari, Joan Viscant, Anita Wardell, Don Weller, Kate Williams and many others.

33 Records are available from www.amazon.co.uk and www.jazzcds.co.uk

For more details see www.33jazz.com or write for a catalogue:

33 Records, The Hat Factory, 65-67 Bute street, Luton LU1 2EY, United Kingdom.

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