

Krakauer

David Krakauer as Soloist with Symphony Orchestra A JOURNEY WITH THE "WIZARD" OF THE 21st CENTURY UNBRIDLED CLARINET

"Ebullient clarinet wizard" - Time Out New York

David Krakauer is such an overwhelmingly expressive clarinetist who moves so seamlessly between different genres that for a minute you'd almost think that there's no appreciable difference between jazz, klezmer and formal classical music."

- Will Friedwald, The Wall Street Journal



Only a select few artists have the ability to convey their message to the back row, to galvanize an audience with a visceral power that connects on a universal level. David Krakauer is such an artist. Widely considered to be one of the greatest clarinetists on the planet, he has been praised internationally as a key innovator in modern klezmer as well as a major voice in classical music. In 2015 he received a Grammy nomination in the Chamber Music/Small Ensemble category as soloist with the conductorless orchestra A Far Cry, and a Juno nomination for the album *Akoka* with cellist Matt Haimovitz.

For the past decade, Krakauer has emerged as an electrifying symphonic soloist who brings his singular sound and powerful approach to the concert stage. In a typical performance, he takes the audience on a journey which culminates in an insane circular breathing solo and a foot-stomping folk tune that drives the audience into a frenzied standing ovation. He has appeared with the world's finest orchestras including the Amsterdam Sinfonietta, Baltimore Symphony, Brooklyn Philharmonic, Detroit Symphony, the Weimar Staatskapelle, the Orchestre de Lyon, the Phoenix Symphony, the Dresdener Philharmonie, and the Seattle Symphony.

Highlights of Krakauer's lauded career include performances with the Kronos, Emerson, Tokyo, Orion and Miro String Quartets; performing during the inaugural season of Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall with renowned jazz pianist Uri Caine; an eight-year tenure with the Naumburg Award-winning Aspen Wind Quintet and performing in the International Emmy Award-winning BBC documentary *Holocaust, A Music Memorial from Auschwitz*.

Krakauer's discography contains some of the most important clarinet recordings of recent decades. Among them are *The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind* (Osvaldo Golijov and the Kronos Quartet/Nonesuch) received the Diapason D'Or in France. The Twelve Tribes (Label Bleu) which was designated album of the year in the jazz category for the Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik, and Paul Moravec's Pulitzer Prize-winning composition *Tempest Fantasy* (Naxos). He has also recorded with violinist Itzhak Perlman/ the Klezmatics (Angel) and Dawn Upshaw/ Osvaldo Golijov (Deutsche Gramophon). His unique sound can be heard in Danny Elfman's score for the Ang Lee film *Taking Woodstock* and throughout Sally Potter's *The Tango Lesson*. New releases include his 2016 album *Checkpoint* with his band Ancestral Groove (Label Bleu), Paul Moravec's Clarinet Concerto with The Boston Modern Orchestra Project (BMOP sound), "Dreams and Prayers" with A Far Cry (Crier Records) and *The Big Picture* on his own label, Table Pounding Records, in 2014.

See other side for Repertoire

Repertoire:

A. With String Orchestra

- The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind by Osvaldo Golijov (Clarinet quintet version recorded by Krakauer with the Kronos quartet in 1996. Orchestral version recorded in 2014 by Krakauer with the Boston-based chamber orchestra "A Far Cry" on Crier Records).
- Klezmer Set: Wedding Dance, Der Gasn Nign and Der Heyser Bulgar (trad arr Krakauer)
- -Ofer Ben-Amots "Klezmer Concerto" (strings + 2 percussionists) (Written for David Krakauer)
- Gasn Nign and Celestial Freylach from Celestial Dialogues by Ofer Ben-Amots (strings + 2 percussionists)
(Recorded by David Krakauer on the Milken archive series)
- Rikudim by Robert Starer
- Copland Concerto (strings + orchestral piano and harp)

B. With Full Orchestra (strings, winds and percussion)

- Premiere Rhapsodie Claude Debussy
- Mozart Concerto for clarinet K 622
- Rikudim by Robert Starer (full version)
(Recorded by David Krakauer on the Milken Archive Series)
- Concerto for Klezmer Clarinet by Wlad Marhulets (written for David Krakauer, published by G.Schirmer)
- The Maypole and Canzonetta by Jacob Weinberg
(Recorded by David Krakauer on the Milken Archive Series)
- Hassidic Dance by Abraham Ellstein
(Recorded by David Krakauer on the Milken Archive Series)
- Anasa by George Tsontakis (Written for David Krakauer, recorded with the Albany Symphony, to be released soon)
- Tahrir by Mohammed Fairouz (Written for David Krakauer, recorded with the UCLA Philharmonia on Sono Luminus)
- Concerto for clarinet by Paul Moravec
(Recorded by David Krakauer on BMOP/Sound)
- Gnarly Buttons by John Adams
Note: The Ellstein, Weinberg and the Starer are short pieces that could be grouped together with Krakauer's klezmer set. (Mix and match)

C. With Symphonic Wind Band

- Arrangements of traditional klezmer repertoire and Krakauer originals by Jean Philippe Calvin

Writer Mark Stryker hinted at the visceral nature of Krakauer's performance in his *Detroit Free Press* review: "Krakauer played with astounding virtuosity and charisma. A furiously improvised cadenza leapt between low and high registers in a way that suggested John Coltrane, building to an excited peak. After the concerto he also offered an encore, improvising by himself with an air of ritual, before playing a swift klezmer dance with the orchestra."