



## David Krakauer Selected Press Quotes

“Masterful technique, a deep grounding in klezmer style, and boatloads of pure adrenaline... like a roaring free jazz solo, laced with virtuosic multiphonics and capped by a piercing high note held for a small eternity.”  
Jeremy Eichler, *Boston Globe*, September 10, 2012

“Entranced by klezmer riffs, [Krakauer] seems to pull from past centuries... Mr. Krakauer is so adept at moving between the techniques and traditions of classical and klezmer that the intriguing elements of the works came to the fore with no distraction.”  
Andrew Druckenbrod, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, May 21, 2012

“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.”  
Mark Stryker, *Detroit Free Press*, December 11, 2009

“Krakauer seemed to live and breathe the score’s roller coaster of emotions and hybrid idioms. He spun trills and runs in the instrument’s highest register that verged on the outer limits of the clarinet’s technical capacity. Krakauer held one climactic high note for what seemed like minutes on end. Some of his most beautiful playing was in the softly mesmeric stanzas of the introduction and epilogue, painting visions of mysticism.”  
Lawrence Budmen, *South Florida Classical Review*, November 15, 2009

“Mr. Krakauer is a breathtakingly flamboyant clarinetist, racing through every octave of his instrument and turning trills into laughs or cries of anguish. He’s musically erudite, hinting at Greek music in one tune, paying tribute to the New Orleans jazz of Sydney Bechet in another or exploring textural abstractions and circular breathing in a solo.”  
Jon Pareles, *NY Times*, April 4, 2009

“Lots of folks play the clarinet, but very few like David Krakauer. There is little if anything Krakauer can’t do with a clarinet – in any style. He can make it speak with power and delicacy across its range in a variety of foreign “languages.”  
*Classical Voice of North Carolina*, October 2007

“Known for his ability to work with a multitude of genres, Krakauer is a master of jazz, rock, funk and most recently, hip-hop.”  
*Daily Iowan*, October 11, 2007

“The soloist was David Krakauer, a noted clarinetist who has worked extensively with contemporary composers and klezmer music as well as the standard repertory. He gave a stunning performance of the Mozart Concerto.

His tone is perhaps reedier than some, but that was in no way a defect. It reinforced the urgency he brought to the music, an urgency that could seem almost to go over the top, but which was always under careful control. He managed the technical challenges with ease, and almost danced along with the music in the finale.”  
*The Register Guard*, Oregon, January 29, 2006

“Then came lightning, in the form of clarinetist David Krakauer, who premiered Israeli composer Ofer BenAmots' fabulous "Klezmer Concerto." Krakauer, who shot to international acclaim following his bestselling CD "The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind" by Osvaldo Golijov, didn't just play the clarinet. He threw his head back and unleashed a torrent of notes -- more like yelps, yips, barks and brawls -- but always within a musical context. He's the Paganini of the clarinet. Add Krakauer's amazing gift for circular breathing and the result was a delirious delight.”  
David Stabler, *Oregonian*, October 16, 2006

51st Annual DOWNBEAT Critics Poll: Top Ten RISING STAR clarinetists - DAVID KRAKAUER  
*Downbeat Magazine*, August 2003

“David Krakauer, who is at home in both musics [klezmer and classical] and others, performed the solo clarinet part so pungently and idiomatically that I can't imagine wanting to hear another soloist play it.”  
Terry Teachout, *The Washington Post*, May 4, 2003

“Mesmerizing musicality, speed, and articulation infuse his clarinet with power, so much so, that when he puts it down it surely must continue to play.”  
Elliott Simon, *All About Jazz*, Issue No. 24, April 2004

“Bringing prodigious chops and serious mirth to klezmer, the clarinetist David Krakauer and his excitable Klezmer Madness band can turn a concert into what seems like an avant-garde Jewish wedding celebration. He's a local treasure, not to be missed.”  
*The New Yorker*, April 15, 2002

"...Krakauer played with a combination of soulfulness and electrifying showiness"  
Allan Kozinn, *The New York Times*; April 26, 2001

"...a voluble, generous performer, ripping out dazzling phrases with ardent energy."  
Howard Mandel, *Jazz Times*; September 2001

"There is arguably no one today playing klezmer—or any music, for that matter—that is at once as deeply rooted in tradition while at the same time as utterly innovative and in-the-moment as David Krakauer."  
Seth Rogovy (author of *The Essential Klezmer*), *The Berkshire Eagle*; June 5, 2001

"...music of uncontrollable joy fused with irrevocable pathos and nobody plays it better or with more soul than Krakauer and his band Klezmer Madness!..."  
Duane Harper Grant, *Sequenza/21*