



Corey Christiansen

Jazz-guitarist Corey Christiansen has served as senior editor and new product advisor with Mel Bay Publications since 2001, writing more than 50 books and spending over 20 weeks on the road each year for clinics and performances.

Corey took up guitar at the age of five under the direction of his father, Mike Christiansen, Chairman of Guitar Studies at Utah State University. He earned a bachelor's degree in music from Utah State and a master's degree in jazz performance from the University of South Florida.

Awakening, Corey's first CD as a leader, was the initial release on Mel Bay Records, the entertainment-recording division of Mel Bay Publications. *Awakening* spent 12 weeks on the JazzWeek chart, reaching #16 on March 2, 2005. The title track, one of Corey's original compositions, consistently receives the most airplay from the recording.

Corey has performed at many notable festivals and venues, including the Syracuse Jazz Festival, the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, the Festival of the Midnight Sun (Helsinki), the Umbria Jazz Festival, the Clearwater Jazz Festival, the St. Louis Jazz Festival, the Webster Groves Jazz Festival (St. Louis), the Daytona Beach Jazz Festival, the Whitaker Music Festival (St. Louis), the Classic American Guitar Show, John Pisano's Guitar Night at Spazio (Los Angeles), Chris' Jazz Café (Philadelphia), Finale (St. Louis), the Blue Wisp (Cincinnati), Dazzle (Denver), the Bistro at Grand Center (St. Louis) and the Smithsonian Jazz Café. He has worked with many outstanding artists, including Jimmy Bruno, John Pisano, Joe Negri, Willie Akins, Chuck Red, Rob McConnell, Sid Jacobs, Jack Wilkins, Danny Gottlieb, Bruce Saunders, Randy Johnston and Vic Juris.