



News Release

Intensity... Beauty... Virtuosity

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Recognized Jazz Guitarist and Educator Corey Christiansen Releases New CD June 1 with Mel Bay Records

(St. Louis, MO.) Capturing the attention of audiences and the respect of fellow jazz musicians where-ever he performs, internationally recognized jazz guitarist, educator and clinician Corey Christiansen takes the next step in his ever-growing career with the release of his new CD, *Awakening* on Mel Bay Records' new jazz label, *Guitar Sessions*.

When Mel Bay Records decided to launch *Guitar Sessions*, they knew they needed an album and an artist who would set the stage for what is yet to come. Speaking of Christiansen's new release William Bay, president of Mel Bay Publications, Inc. said, "The goal for *Awakening* was to produce an album which conveyed the intensity, the beauty and the virtuosity of Corey's playing...burning jazz guitar."

Christiansen took the opportunity to record *Awakening* with long-time friends and notable musicians Danny Gottlieb on drums, Per Danielsson on piano, and Mark Neuenschwander on bass. Christiansen explores all avenues on *Awakening* from playing Coltrane changes over the bridge of jazz standard *All the Things You Are* to his original modal composition *Little Hands, Big Dreams*, written for and dedicated to his two-year-old son.

Recently jazz guitarist Joe Diorio, recently raved, “One of the best jazz guitar records I’ve heard in a long time. Beautiful playing, beautiful writing, beautiful sound.”

June 1, 2004 will mark the official release of *Awakening*. Copies can be purchased conveniently at Mel Bay Records’ new website: www.MelBayRecords.com and at many other on-line music stores. Look for *Awakening* at your local music retail outlet and any where Corey Christiansen is performing.

Most albums released by Mel Bay Records include enhanced features that allow listeners to view video clips of studio sessions and performances, read musician bios, view gear and more. Mel Bay Publications, Inc. will issue publishing transcription books containing the recorded solos and a play-along CD for each new album.

Additional information about release dates, future CDs and other Mel Bay Records projects can be found at www.melbayrecords.com, by sending an e-mail to email@melbayrecords.com or by contacting Bryan Leonard at (800)-863-5229.