



Leon Gurvitch – pianist and composer was born in Minsk, Belarus. He graduated from the Belarussian State Academy of Music and also studied at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg.

The musician founded his own Group "**Leon Gurvitch Project**" in 2000. The group plays a fusion of modern jazz, world music and klezmer influences which makes it a unique cross-cultural project.

The group has had successful appearances at the Leverkusener Jazztage, jazzahed in Bremen, International Festival in Amsterdam, KlezMore Festival in Vienna, Hamburger JazzTage, Festival of Dialogue of Four Cultures in Lodz, etc. The CD "Eldorado" with Frank London (Grammy Award, "The Klezmatics", NY) was released in 2010 (Morgenland/Harmonia Mundi/Naxos). The new solo piano album "Remember Me" will be released in 2014.

Leon Gurvitch gave outstanding performances with a legendary Russian jazz saxophonist Vladimir Chekasin and has worked in cooperation with a famous German theatrical producer, Peter Zadek.

Since 2004 Leon Gurvitch has been teaching as an assistant professor at the Johannes Brahms Conservatory in Hamburg. 2011 - Musical Director of the Premiere of the Phillip Glass opera "Les Enfants Terribles" at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg. 2012-2013 – Outstanding concerts with Gurvitch's compositions & arrangements feat. Soloists of Hamburg State Opera.

Gurvitch is the author of more than 300 compositions & arrangements. In 2006 he was awarded the prize for composition of an international competition "Golden Chanukia" in Berlin. The musician composed music for a film of the Oscar-winning producer Menahem Golan ("Death Game", 2001).

Leon Gurvitch (piano, melodica, composition)
Benjamin Weidekamp (saxophone/clarinet)
Omar Rodriguez Calvo (contrabass)
Diego Pinera (drums, percussion)

More Info: www.leon-gurvitch.com

Press:

Howard Mandel, president of the American Jazz Journalists Association

"Gurvitch expands upon klezmer's basics from the perspective of a piano modernist and a skilled, ambitious composer."

"Hamburger Abendblatt"

"For Leon Gurvitch the Klezmer music has become an indispensable source of inspiration. In his compositions the Hamburger pianist and composer follows the joyful character of the klezmer music tradition and creates an individual and diverse sound between East European folklore and contemporary jazz."

John Kelman is Managing Editor of award winning AllAboutJazz.com, the Internet's largest jazz site.

"Gurvitch comes to jazz from a classical vantage point colored, as well, by the Eastern European folk tradition that is an unmistakable part of his DNA. The result is something possessed of its own levity and gravitas, its own complexity and simpler beauty - all delivered with an impressive virtuosity that is always a means, never an end."