
George Winston

Solo Piano Concert
The Winter Show



Food Bank in the Lobby

We have invited a local Food Bank to the venue tonight, who help get food and assistance to people in the surrounding area. Many thanks to everyone who participated in the food drive. The proceeds from the CD sales tonight will also benefit this group.

www.georgewinston.com

Biography

GEORGE WINSTON grew up mainly in Montana, and spent his later formative years in Mississippi and Florida. During this time, his favorite music was instrumental rock and instrumental R&B, including Floyd Cramer, the Ventures, Booker T & The MG's, Jimmy Smith, and many more. Inspired by R&B, jazz, Blues and rock (especially the Doors), George began playing organ in 1967. In 1971 he switched to the acoustic piano after hearing recordings from the 1920s and the 1930s by the legendary stride pianists Thomas "Fats" Waller and the late Teddy Wilson. In addition to working on stride piano, he also at that time came up with his own style of melodic instrumental music on solo piano, called *folk piano*, or *rural folk piano*.

George's latest album is **NIGHT** (released May 2022). Since 1972, he has released in total sixteen solo piano albums. His other recent albums are **RESTLESS WIND** (2019) and **SPRING CAROUSEL – A CANCER RESEARCH BENEFIT** (2017).

He also recorded the soundtracks for three video projects produced by the late George Levenson of Informed Democracy (www.informeddemocracy.com): a solo guitar soundtrack for **SADAKO AND THE THOUSAND PAPER CRANES**, as well as piano, guitar, and harmonica solos for **PUMPKIN CIRCLE** and **BREAD COMES TO LIFE**. In addition, he recorded the solo piano soundtrack for the Rabbit Ears video of the children's story, **THE VELVETEEN RABBIT** (www.rabbitears.com), and the soundtrack for the 1988 Peanuts episode, **THIS IS AMERICA CHARLIE BROWN: THE BIRTH OF THE CONSTITUTION**.

George is presently concentrating mainly on live performances, and most of the time he is touring, playing solo piano concerts, (the *Summer Show* or the *Winter Show*). He is currently most inspired by the great New Orleans R&B pianists Henry Butler, James Booker, Professor Longhair, Dr. John, and Jon Cleary; and he is also working on interpreting pieces on solo piano by many of his favorite composers, especially Vince Guaraldi, Professor Longhair, and the Doors, as well as Dr. John, Allen Toussaint, Ralph Towner, Sam Cooke, Randy Newman, Frank Zappa, Al Kooper, Rahsaan Roland Kirk, John Hartford, Oliver Schroer, Philip Aaberg and others.

George is also recording the masters of the Hawaiian Slack Key guitar for an extensive series of albums for Dancing Cat Records (www.dancingcat.com). Slack Key is the name for the beautiful solo fingerstyle guitar tradition unique to Hawaii, which began in the early 1800s and predated the steel guitar by over half a century.

Additionally, he is also recording three of his main traditional music inspirations: Sam Hinton, Rick Epping, and Curt Bouterse.

GEORGE WINSTON plays Steinway Pianos.

Discography

- (1) Songs listed with the recordings are ones that George often plays in concert.
- (2) Scan the QR code for all of George's recordings.
- (3) To see **liner notes** for these albums, click on the recording and then "**Liner Notes**".



Solo Piano Recordings:

1. **Night** (2022) — includes *At Midnight* and *Beverly*.
2. **Restless Wind** (2019) — includes *Summertime*, *A Change is Gonna Come*, and *Muskrat Ramble Medley*.
3. **Spring Carousel—A Cancer Research Benefit** (2017) — includes *Pixie #13 in C (Gobajje)*, *More Than You Know*, and *Night Blooming/Carousel 16*.
4. **Autumn** (1980) — includes *Colors* and *Moon*.
5. **December** (1982) — includes *Thanksgiving*, *Prelude*, and *Carol of The Bells*.
6. **Forest** (1994) — includes *Tamarack Pines* (played as the second song with *Colors*), *Lights in the Sky* (played at the end of *Moon*), *The Cradle*, *Troubadour*, and *Snowman Medley*.
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7. **Winter Into Spring** (1982) — includes *Rain*.
8. **Summer** (1991) — includes *Fragrant Fields*.
9. **Plains** (1999) — includes *Give Me Your Hand*.
10. **Montana—A Love Story** (2004) — includes *The Twisting of The Hay Rope* and *You Send Me*.
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11. **Linus & Lucy—The Music of Vince Guaraldi** (1996) — includes *Linus & Lucy*, *The Great Pumpkin Waltz*, *Charlie Brown's Thanksgiving*, *Skating*, and *The Masked Marvel*.
12. **Love Will Come—The Music of Vince Guaraldi, Vol. 2** (2010) — includes *Time For Love*, *Be My Valentine Charlie Brown*, *Love Will Come*, *You're Elected Charlie Brown/Little Birdie*, and *Christmas Time is Here*.

Discography

Solo Piano Recordings: —continued

13. **Gulf Coast Blues & Impressions—A Hurricane Relief Benefit** (2006) — includes *Pixie* and *Pixie #3 (Gobajie*)*.
14. **Gulf Coast Blues & Impressions 2—A Louisiana Wetlands Benefit** (2012) — includes *An African In The Americas* and *Pixie #6 (Gobajie*)*.



Gobajie (Pixie)*

*Gobajie was a kitty who loved music. She would listen attentively to live music and CDs, and whenever the music stopped she would respond by singing.

15. **Night Divides the Day—The Music of the Doors** (2002) — includes *Riders On The Storm*.
16. **Ballads And Blues 1972** (1972) — special edition with 5 bonus tracks.

Benefit EP:

17. **Remembrance—A Memorial Benefit** (2001)
A 7 song EP of piano, guitar and harmonica solos, benefitting those affected by 9/11 and in support of Feeding America.
18. **Silent Night** (2013) — benefit digital single on piano, benefitting Feeding America Food Bank.

Soundtrack Recordings:

19. **The Velveteen Rabbit** (1984)
Meryl Streep (narration) and George Winston (piano). Special edition also includes the piano solos without the narration and a bonus track. DVD and book set available at www.rabbitears.com.
20. **Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes** (1995)
Liv Ullmann (narration) and George Winston (guitar). The guitar solos also appear without the narration in Part 2 — includes *Birds In Flight* (aka *The Boys of Ballisodare*).

Harmonica Recording:

21. **Harmonica Solos** (2012) — includes *Derentwater's Farewell* (and Volume 2 is also planned).