

### **Dizzy Krisch** vibraphonist, pianist & composer

Dizzy Krisch is a vibraphonist, pianist, composer and arranger and lives in Tübingen, Germany since 1982.

Born on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of Feb., 1954 in Schramberg, a small town in the German Black Forest, Dizzy grew up amid the jazz and artistic environment of his parental home. The success of his father (himself a painter and jazz-musician) as a pianist and director of a jazz-group fascinated Dizzy, it was only a question of time before the boy would also have a go at the instrument.

And so it came about, that at the age of 9 he had already performed his first concerts as a vibraphonist with the "Krisch-Junior-Quartet" in which two of his brothers played. Acclaimed as the youngest jazz band in the world, they enjoyed great success all over Germany and in the neighbouring countries Switzerland and Austria, where Dizzy was proclaimed (at the age of 12 years) to be the "Jazz Mozart". This first period of the Krisch Quartet lasted 10 years and was strongly influenced by the sound of the Modern Jazz Quartet associated with vibraphonist Milt Jackson.

In 1973 Dizzy made the decision to become a professional musician. He left his hometown and moved to Munich where he worked as a freelance musician nationally and internationally meeting such musicians as Carlos Benavent, John Scofield, Günter Kronberg, Wolfgang Engstfeld. He shared the stage with artists from all Jazz categories from jazz rock to free jazz. Through his work with these musicians Dizzy developed independence as an instrumentalist and composer.

Since 1982 Dizzy has been living in Tübingen, Germany with his wife painter Susanne Höfler and their son Anselm (born 1985). Since then he has been developing his own personal musical plans and visions.

In 1988 Dizzy founded his band "Wide Open" in which he plays exclusively his own compositions, and incorporates electric instruments. As well as drawing on elements of fusion and jazz rock Dizzy makes use of noise or sound collages. In the same year he became a member of "Stötters Nevertheless", the German-French band of the trumpet player Claus Stötter with whom he performed internationally to this day.

In the nineties Dizzy widened his interests over the boundaries of Jazz and intensified his exploration of the classical music, the contemporary modern, painters, sculptors, filmmakers and writers.

With the sound expansion of the vibraphone through the use of pick up microphones allowing the feeding in of external sound sources via Midi, Dizzy has opened up new dimensions in sound possibilities. These have strongly influenced the music of "Wide Open" and even more the work of the in 1997 formed group Improvisation Duo "Echoes".

1998 Dizzy's second great passion is playing the piano. (His first lessons were taken at the age of 6 years). Earlier the instrument was used mainly for teaching and composing, but now the "Dizzy Krisch Grand Piano Trio" has provided Dizzy with a forum for performing primarily his own works.

In 2000 Dizzy documented his lasting connection to the music of Milt Jackson in his project "the Dizzy Krisch Vibraphone Quartet- A Tribute to Milt Jackson", which calls to memory the great vibraphonist who died in 1999.

In 2004 the Krisch Quartet celebrated forty years on stage. Dizzy put together an anniversary program with which the quartet performed well into 2005.

2005/2006 Dizzy is guest star soloist in Terry Gibbs project with the "Bobby Burgess Big Band Explosion". Concerts in duos with the composer and pianist Rainer Tempel with their project "Lieder from Gartenstraße".

Besides concert appearances as guest soloist in the most diverse formations, Dizzy plays, composes and arranges mainly for the revived Krisch Quartet, the Dizzy Krisch Vibraphone Quartet and his main bands Wide Open and Echoes.

From the beginning Dizzy has followed his own musical ideas. In order to realize these ideas on his instrument, the vibraphone, he has always sought musicians who were eager to try out these musical ideas. This was successful and is still successful because Dizzy respects the individuality of his colleagues, and because of the inspiration of his music and through his virtuously and mastery of the vibraphone.

Dizzy has performed and/or recorded with the following artists:  
Ed Thygpen, Claus Stötter, Francois Laizeau, Theodosij Spassov, Albert Mangelsdorff, Emil Mangelsdorff, Oskar Klein, Don Rader, Frank Tortiller, Paul Kuhn, Rainer Tempel, Karoline Höfler, Wolfgang Haffner, Dieter Ilg, Charles McPherson, Joy Denalane, Lilly Thornton, Carlos Benavent, Lauren Newton, Martin Schrack, Michael Kersting, Bobby Burgess Big Band, and many others.

### Discography

1970 Krisch-Quartett: "Integration"  
1986 Brainstream: "B 27" 1982 Nightwork: "Im Land der Räuber und Gendarmen"  
1988 Wide Open: "First Picture"  
1992 SDR-Big Band 1991 • SDR-Big Band und Paul Kuhn  
1995 Stötter's Nevertheless: "But Where Is The Exit"  
1999 Echoes: "Echoes Of Glass" 1999  
2000 Doppel-CD Tübinger Jazz- & Klassiktage  
2001 Stötter's Nevertheless: "Die Entdeckung der Banane"  
2001 Dizzy Krisch Vibraphone Quartet: "Tribute to Milt Jackson"  
2001 Lilly Thornton Quartet "thorntones"  
2001 "Dizzy Krisch-live"  
2001 Joy Denalane "Mamani"  
2001 Tübinger Jazz- & Klassiktage 2001 "tales from other times"  
2001 Jochen Feucht "Sine qua non"  
2004 Susanne Götz "reves"  
2004 Werner Lener Trio "A New Horizon"  
2006 Rainer Tempel-Dizzy Krisch "Lieder aus der Gartenstrasse"

more details and updated information:

[www.dizzy-krisch.de/](http://www.dizzy-krisch.de/)