

## Damien Masterson : World Jazz for Many Beats

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“VERSATILE” is the first word that comes to mind when you hear harmonica virtuoso **Damien Masterson** and his “world jazz” band. The lively group has pleased crowds—and critics—at major Bay Area venues, including Yoshi’s, Kimball’s East and the Russian River Jazz Festival, plus gigs throughout Canada and the West. Leaping seamlessly from Brazilian samba or Cuban jazz to American funk and blues, **Intercambio** delivers solid musicianship and fine original tunes, served up with a spirit of pure fun.

A Bay Area native, Damien polished his chops on chromatic and diatonic harmonica and alto sax during 2\_ years in Sao Paulo, where he studied, played Brazil’s top jazz clubs and appeared on Zerro Santos’ CD, *Santos Big Band*. Damien’s Good Omen label released the Latin-inspired *Intercambio* CD in 1997, followed by *Cubacambio!* in 1999, recorded in Havana, Cuba. The discs and the band’s live performances receive the same critical acclaim:

- *“What a delightful surprise it is to see and hear Damien and his swinging Latin jazz-funk band. He’s a remarkably versatile player.”—Philip Ellwood, San Francisco Chronicle*
- *“A delightful solo debut. This small label effort is a certified treasure.”—Jazziz Magazine*
- *“Damien shines on this exceptional...debut disc like the sun glistening over Sugarloaf Mountain.”  
—Chuy Verela, East Bay Express*
- *“Damien can rip through a melody or express a note. A rare talent.”—Songwriter’s Monthly*

**Bookings:** Good Omen Productions, 415 305-7138

**Information:** [www.goodomen.net](http://www.goodomen.net)

(VERSION 2—SHORTER)

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*San Francisco Chronicle* jazz critic Philip Ellwood: *“What a delightful surprise it is to see and hear Damien and his swinging Latin jazz-funk band. He’s a remarkably versatile player.”*

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