

Steve Davis - drums

Virtuoso Jazz drummer Steve Davis was born in Santa Barbara, California in 1958.

With Shelly Manne as his godfather, he became interested in the drums at a young age.

Following the advice of drumset teacher Alan Dawson, Steve moved to New York City in the early 1980s to begin his career as a jazz drummer.

Soon after he met the jazz educator Jamey Aebersold, and in 1982 joined the Aebersold clinic faculty, of which he has been a member ever since. Throughout the 1980s Steve built up a reputation in the New York scene, playing and recording with many big names.

During this period he also studied privately with Joe Morello.

Steve is widely known as a member of the Lynne Arriale trio. Pianist Arriale met Steve at a jam session soon after she herself moved to New York in 1991. There was an immediate musical rapport and they decided to work together. Steve has since appeared on 10 recordings with Arriale, and has toured worldwide with the trio for about 15 years. Davis has also performed with David Liebman, Bill Evans, Richie Beirach, John Pattitucci, Walt Weiskopf, Benny Golson, Ira Sullivan, and Andy Laverne. He has over 200 recordings to his credit, including 12 of his own.

In addition to his extensive touring throughout Europe and North America, Steve served on the faculty of Jamey Aebersold Jazz Clinics from 1982-2008 and served on the faculty of the Berlin Conservatory of Music as professor of jazz studies in 2000 and 2001, as well as Port Townsend in 2007. He has written six drum books, including a (2008) released book from Schott-Music Publishing, and has conducted educational clinics throughout the world.

Steve is also a respected recording engineer in the jazz community having engineered over 300 recordings.

Steve was a Visiting Artist in Residence at Indiana University in 2000-2001 and served on the faculty of the University of Southern Florida Tampa from 2004-2008. Steve is currently on the faculty at Washington University and divides his time between freelancing and playing with his own group.

Having performed together several times in New York City, and then for extended periods of time in Berlin, Germany, Steve Davis and Jeanfrancois Prins recorded their trio CD "Light" (GAM 918) feat. bassist Larry Kohut, a mere 10 days after the terrorist attack on New York on September 11, 2001. They dedicated this very pure and "live" jazz recording to the victims, their families, and the numerous heroes who rescued so many others.