

Biography Rick Kostelijk

Rick Kostelijk starts playing the guitar aged 11. The guitarplaying of Mark Knopfler is his first and main source of inspiration. Broadening his horizon he listens to a.o. Jan Akkerman, Gary Moore, Joe Satriani and Andrés Segovia. He continues learning to play by ear.

Fueled by Jan Akkerman's music his interest in improvisation gets bigger and bigger. Rick studies all great jazz soloists. Later on Rick studies at Amsterdam Conservatory and after that at Utrecht Conservatory with a.o. Eef Albers. In 2005 graduates with honours at Utrecht Conservatory. After graduating Rick gets private lessons from Bert van den Brink, Sebastiaan Cornelissen and Martijn van Iterson. Above that he studies classical guitar with Annette Kruisbrink en singing. This way he keeps developing his musical skills.

After that he gets involved in a lot of projects as a sideman ranging from jazz to pop. Some of the bands/artists/orchestras he collaborates with:

- Musical 'The Boyguard' by Stage Entertainment,
- Marinierskapel der Koninklijke Marine,
- Orkest van het Oosten,
- A variety of harmony- and fanfare- orchestras playing jazz and pop repertoire as a soloist as well as a member of the combo.
- Big bands,
- Together with singer Ilse van der Wal he performs as a duo called 'Vocal+Chords',
- A host of jazz-groups a.o. Whoshedo, De jazzcentrale, Jazztrio.nu,
- Popbands.

Rick's ultimate dream is to develop his own personal style. Therefore he combines his early inspirators (as mentioned above), his love for classical- and symphonic- music with more recent influences like Jeff Beck and Scott Henderson. In 2010 he releases an E.P. called 'Don't Lose It!' containing 5 of his compositions. In 2014 he releases an album called 'Compass'. He works with some of the finest musicians of the Dutch fusion- and jazz-scene (a.o. Bert van den Brink on piano and Arno van Nieuwenhuize on drums). His compositions have that unique personal sound creating an interesting interplay of melody and virtuosity.