

Michael Karr

by Patrick Ross

Musician Michael Karr is one of those rare instances of humble musical genius. I spoke with Michael over the phone recently to talk with him about what inspired the music from his latest album entitled "Think It Over" on which he is the sole instrumentalist on all the cuts with one exception, the vocals



sung by the late Izzy Rivera. A very warm and soft-spoken individual, it is through his music that Michael finds his best expression I believe. Inspired by his father a multi-instrumental musician who took him everywhere as a child and exposing him to various musical settings, he began his voyage through music at the tender age of eleven on his first recording dates with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony as a soloist. His ability and talent recognized by Trombonist Randy Purcell earned him a scholarship to Carnegie Mellon University. After completing his education and receiving two Bachelors degrees by age 19, he began playing and touring nationally and in Europe.

Playing with a veritable who's who of musical groups and artist, a list of which would go beyond the scope of this article, suffice it to say he has earned the respect of many great and talented musicians over the course of his career. Equally talented on both piano and trumpet, he is also an arranger, lyricist, composer, engineer, and producer. Having been signed to various labels during his career and producing a top ten hit on Billboards R&B charts with Stanley Fields cover of "You, Me & He" on the 3C label. It is the women in his life that have most inspired him, as is the case with his daughter after whom the track "Sarina (Sarah)" on his latest album is named. A resident musician in many notable jazz venues throughout New York City, and almost every club east of the Rockies – from after hours clubs, stadiums, and two Presidential Inaugural Balls. He is the leader of Michael's Karrtet™, which features the musicianship of Ron Affif, Victor Jones, John Benitez, Randy Johnston, Alex Blake, and Essiet O. Essiet. Jazz Improv magazine has him listed as "Noteworthy Performance". Michael Karr is the genuine, real deal, personally and musically.

<http://www.michaelkarr.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Michael-Karr/29741212167>

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/michael-karr/1b/3a9/2b4>

<http://www.myspace.com/michaeljkarmusic>

<http://twitter.com/alakarr>

<http://www.reverbnation.com/alakarr>

<http://www.numubu.com/152817-profile-michael-karr.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/michaelkarr>