

# dennis mackrel



Photo credit: Rudy Lu

**Dennis Mackrel** is a noted jazz drummer and highly respected composer/arranger and conductor whose work has been recorded and performed by the Count Basie Orchestra, the Dizzy Gillespie All Star Big Band, the WDR Radio Big Band from Germany, the Jazz Orchestra of the Concertgebouw from Holland, the Danish Radio Big Band from Denmark, and the McCoy Tyner Big Band, whose Grammy winning CDs included Mackrel's arrangements.

He has won numerous awards including Who's Who in Music, A National Endowment for the Arts grant for composition, and Outstanding Alumni from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

He is also an experienced jazz educator who conducts master classes, seminars and workshops throughout Europe, Asia, Canada and the United States.

... Dennis "...is already a good drummer, and one day he's really actually going to be a monster"  
- Count Basie

"If I ever have a record date coming up that calls for a drummer and Dennis is not available, I'll postpone the session. He's that good."  
- Sir George Shearing

"I think Dennis is one of the finest young drummers I've ever heard. He is extremely knowledgeable and he is also a very accomplished writer..."  
- Thad Jones

"Mackrel's drumming, especially well-displayed in his brushwork solos on ballads, was illuminated by his far-ranging experience and his skills as a composer and arranger"  
- LA Times

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