



Mariah Wilkins Artist Management LLC

Ambrose Akinmusire, trumpet  
Luis Bonilla, trombone  
FLY *featuring* Mark Turner, Jeff Ballard, & Larry Grenadier  
Luis Perdomo, piano  
Guillermo Klein, composer & piano  
Miguel Zenón, alto sax  
Mark Turner, tenor sax  
Theo Bleckmann, voice (booking only)

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## **BIOGRAPHY: MARK TURNER**

In a career that spans two decades and encompasses a broad array of musical ventures, saxophonist Mark Turner has emerged as a towering presence in the jazz community. With a distinctive, personal tone, singular improvisational skills and an innovative, challenging compositional approach, he's earned a far-reaching reputation as one of jazz's most original and influential musical forces.

2013 finds Turner entering an exciting new creative phase, with his varied talents showcased on a variety of notable new recording projects. Later this year, he'll release his sixth album as a leader—his first under his own name in a dozen years. He's also featured on new or upcoming releases by pianist Stefano Bollani, guitarist Gilad Hekselman, pianist Baptiste Trotignon and the Billy Hart Quartet, of which Turner's been a member for nearly a decade and with whom he recorded two previous albums. He's also continuing his work as a member of Fly, a collaborative trio with bassist Larry Grenadier and drummer Jeff Ballard.

Born in 1965 in Ohio and raised in Southern California, Turner grew up surrounded by music. "There always was a lot of R&B and jazz and soul and gospel going on in the house all the time," he recalls. "This was in the early '70s, when the whole integration and civil rights thing had begun to go mainstream, and my mother and stepfather were in the first wave of young black professionals and intellectuals who moved to upper-middle-class white neighborhoods. They and their friends were always going out to see live jazz. I was intrigued by that, and I was intrigued by the whole history of jazz music and African-American culture, as well as the music itself. And my father, who died when I was one and a half, had played saxophone, so maybe I was looking for a connection with him too."

Of his latest album, "Lathe of Heavn" (ECM Records 2014) a quartet effort with Avishai Cohen on trumpet, Joe Martin on bass and Marcus Gilmore on drums, Turner notes, "I spent a lot of time on the compositions, which I usually do. The blowing is important, but I don't think about that when I'm writing. I just write the tune, and then we see if we can improvise on it or not. Some of the new tunes are long and kind of involved, and some of them are kind of my version of being pyrotechnical. I just wanted to explore, and I wanted to be able to go in there with a band that would be flexible and have the craftsmanship and the foundation to play something difficult and still make it sound music