

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Grammy nominated pianist and Steinway Artist **STEVE BARTA**, has stayed true to his creative path as a composer, recording artist, producer, author and educator. He has performed his original works as a solo artist, with jazz ensembles and symphony orchestras. As a member of *Herbie Mann and Jasil Brazz featuring Steve Barta*, he recorded his widely acclaimed *Blue River* – a collection of Brazilian compositions. His contribution to the world of music includes 15 recordings that reflect his many influences, particularly Brazilian, jazz and classical.

He has also worked with an extensive list of artists, including Al Jarreau, Hubert Laws, Herbie Mann, Dori Caymmi, B.B. King, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Paulinho da Costa, guitarist Ricardo Silveria and many more. In 2012, Barta was nominated for a Grammy award for *Jumpin; Jazz Kids* – an original storyline and collection of jazz compositions written for jazz ensemble and orchestra, along with his co-writer Mark Oblinger. He has written several works for symphony orchestra that have been performed worldwide.

Barta is a music educator with over thirty years of experience teaching intermediate to advanced students, educators and professional musicians. He is the author of *The Source* (Hal Leonard Publishing) and has published several books of his arrangements. Hal Leonard Publishing also requested him to arrange several Beatles compositions for solo piano in their well-known, *Beatles Songbook*. He currently teaches private piano studies, as well as jazz theory, arranging and composition at Colorado College.

**KEITH REED** grew up playing bluegrass banjo and guitar with a group of traditional bluegrass musicians from the southeast. This early immersion of bluegrass traditionalism and its inherent culture led him to pursue an AA degree from South Plains College in TX, the only school offering a bluegrass program at that time. Keith then chose to pursue his BA in classical guitar, finding the techniques and passion of classical guitar vital to his development as a musician. Touring and performing have been a constant in Keith's musical career. Becoming a Rounder Recording artist with the band Open Road led to extensive touring to include performances at the Ryman Auditorium and the Kennedy Center, and two critically acclaimed recordings. A seasoned musician, he continues to perform with a variety of professional acoustic artists. Keith teaches bluegrass guitar, banjo, and bluegrass ensemble at Colorado College.