

# TAYLOR ROBERTS

*music for every occasion*

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# BIO

Since the age of four, music has been the most important thing in Taylor Roberts' life, for it was then that he met and fell in love with a piano. The mysterious instrument produced the most amazing sounds with the simple press of a key. Though he had been on the planet for a mere four years, his young heart knew that he simply had to master this instrument, and so it was quickly arranged for him to study privately with a teacher at home. Nine years of lessons and joyfully picking out songs from records to play on the piano went by, and at the age of thirteen Taylor got his first guitar. Though he would always admire the piano, and would remember fondly the many hours they spent together, it was clear to him that he had finally found the instrument of his dreams. He made the firm decision to make the guitar his primary focus.

{For Taylor, as for so many of us, music was an oasis throughout the tumultuous teenage years.}

Born and raised in Gainesville, Florida, Taylor found himself in an ideal location for his budding musical career. The supportive local music scene (and his parents) allowed him to play in various bands throughout high school, with sounds ranging from punk and ska to rock and blues. For Taylor, as for so many of us, music was an oasis throughout the tumultuous teenage years. At the age of sixteen, however, he was swept up to entirely new musical heights, rich with emotion and storytelling and...explosions! Yes, he had discovered Jazz. Charlie Parker, John Coltrane, Wes Montgomery...An entirely new world had opened up!

After surviving high school, Taylor took his diploma and his newly refined focus, and began pursuing a Bachelor of Music Degree in Jazz Studies at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. Being able to study with the internationally-renowned faculty and honing his craft was a dream come true. Today, Taylor has made music performance and teaching his full-time job, and has become very well-respected among his peers. Multiple performances at the Jacksonville Jazz Festival and the Gainesville Jazz Festival, active membership in the Ritz Jazz Orchestra, and thousands of gigs at clubs, restaurants and private events throughout the Southeast have helped to build his reputation, professionally and musically.

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In 2008, he released a solo guitar album entitled "Short Story," currently available on iTunes. The praise and recognition he received for the recording has helped to make him a "first call" in Jacksonville and the surrounding areas for solo guitar work. Additionally, he was afforded the opportunity in 2009 to travel to Japan, Russia, and the Dutch Harbor performing with the Christian Tamburr Quintet. Other household names he's performed with include Bucky Pizzarelli, Linda Cole, Gary Foster, Sal Lozano, Kevin Bales, Tim Hagans, Jon Weber, Toscha

Comeaux, and Rene Marie. He currently resides in Florida with his family, performing and teaching regularly.

# MUSIC

## RECENT RECORDINGS

<https://soundcloud.com/taylorrobertsjazz>

## DEMOS

<http://taylorroberts.info/music.html>

## FREE MP3

<http://taylorroberts.info/sample.html>

## PURCHASE

AMAZON: <http://www.amazon.com/Short-Story/dp/B00262OBD2>

iTUNES: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/short-story/id310479376>

# FACTS

- NAME: Taylor Roberts
- TAGLINE: "Music for Every Occasion"
- STYLES: Jazz, Pop, Latin, R&B
- SOUNDS LIKE: Joe Pass, Wes Montgomery, Charlie Hunter, Russell Malone, Lenny Breau, Andy McKee
- HOMETOWN: Gainesville, Florida, USA
- FORMED: 1995
- DISCOGRAPHY: Short Story (2008), Nick DeCarlis - Hush of Night (2006), Patricia Borzych – Patricia Borzych & Taylor Roberts (2005)
- INSTRUMENTATION: Guitar – 7 string archtop, acoustic, classical, electric
- EQUIPMENT: Custom Benedetto Bravo 7 Archtop Guitar, Kent Armstrong Handwound Humbucker, Buscarino Chameleon speaker, Sansamp Para Driver, Shure SM58

Microphone, Thomastik-Infeld Nickel Flatwound 14s strings, Gepco X-Band Ultra Low Capacitance cable with Neutrik Plugs, 1.50mm Pickboy Jazz picks

- **NOTABLE:** Performed New Years event for John Travolta and his family at his house in Ocala, FL (2005). Performed at private event for Mikhail Baryshnikov at his White Oak Plantation in Yulee, FL (2011).

# PRESS

## TESTIMONIALS

*"The voice of modern jazz is led by names such as Pat Metheny, Julian Lage, Russell Malone, Lionel Loueke, and Gilad Hekselman. Guitarist Taylor Roberts comfortably joins this top tier group with his own unique and stylized approach to the art of jazz guitar. I have had the great pleasure of sharing the stage around the world with Taylor and always look forward to the musical story that unfolds."* - [Christian Tamburr](#)

*"I appreciate the high quality musicianship and groove that Taylor Roberts brings to the gigs that we do together!"* - [Phil Morrison](#)

*"In a musical world where many players lean too heavily towards one or the other, guitarist/composer Taylor Roberts balances the passion with the parts. He is a wonderful, inventive player with musicianship to spare. Each time I worked with him was a pleasure."* - [Dr. Keith Javors](#)

*"One of the best guitar players I have had the pleasure to work with. His sense of rhythm is superb and he always pleases the crowd. Taylor is very professional, relaxed and has a great sense of humor. Who could ask for more?"* - [Eve Fleishman](#)

*"Taylor Roberts is without question one of the finest guitarists in the Southeast. A musician's*

*musician who has clearly done his homework, he has distilled his influences into his own distinctly personal voice on the guitar. His tone is pure and resonant, his time is rock solid and in the pocket, his lines are melodic and harmonically inventive, and most importantly: he swings! The jazz press often mention guitarists like Peter Bernstein, Lage Lund, Gilad Hekselman, Mike Moreno, and Kurt Rosenwinkel; in my opinion, they need to add one more name to that list: Taylor Roberts."* - [Ray Callender](#)

*"I met Taylor several years ago, and was astounded. Not only was I struck by his advanced technique and impeccable ability, but more important - the choice of material he was tackling. I've made it a point to ask around and find out where he's at every year, and I haven't been disappointed. He's constantly bringing new ideas into his style. Taylor strikes me as another cat that lets a naked love for music be his most important guide. After that everything else falls easily into place, as he shows us every time he plays."* - [Dave Hofgren](#)

*"Taylor is a truly genuine person and guitar player. And super swingin'! Enough said."* - [Joshua Bowlus](#)

*"Taylor Roberts is an exceptionally gifted guitarist with an outstanding sense of*

*musicianship and deep jazz roots. Taylor's formidable technique, harmonic sophistication, warm tone and deep sense of swing have earned him the reputation as one of the finest young jazz guitarists on the scene today." - [James Hogan](#)*

*"Taylor Roberts' passion for life and dedication to his art can be heard in every note he plays." - [John M. Chapman](#)*

*"Dedication, a great love for music, and much time have made Taylor Roberts a force on the music scene in any setting. Solo or in a combo, he always keeps it interesting." - [Marty Liquori](#)*

## ARTICLES

Just Jazz Guitar: November 2014

Folio Weekly: November 20-26, 2012 – Page 34 “Now’s the Time: Taylor Roberts Honors the History of Jazz by Keeping it Squarely in Today” <http://folioweekly.com/Folio-Weekly-November-20-2012,2099>

# PRESENCE

## PERFORMANCES – USA

### GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

Civic Media Center - *Performed with the band Moot*

Hardback Cafe - *Performed with the band Moot*

Covered Dish - *Performed with the band Moot*

3rd Place Bar & Grille - *Performed with the band Four On the Floor*

Haile Plantation Country Club - *Played multiple private events*

Pontiac Grille - *Weekly performances with jazz trio (rotating personnel) (1½ years)*

Eddie C's - *Performed with the country band Homegrown*

Maude's Classic Cafe - *Multiple shows with jazz quartet (rotating personnel) (2001-2009)*

Leonardo's 706 - *Multiple shows with jazz trio/quartet/quintets, and solo guitar for Sunday brunch (5 years)*

101 Downtown - *Weekly performances with the Scott Wilson quartet/quintet (1½ years)*

Tapas & Tinis - *Weekly performances with John Chapman on bass (The Taylor Roberts Duo) (1 year)*

Emiliano's Cafe - *Weekly performances with Jon Jackson on percussion, or David Ottenberg on bass, or Frank Sullivan on piano (Taylor Roberts Duo) (2½ years)*

Mario's Bistro - *Weekly/bi-weekly solo guitar (1½ years)*

Francesca's Trattoria - *Bi-weekly guitar duo with Karl Weismantel (6 months)*

Hilton Hotel - *Bi-weekly with The Frank Sullivan Quartet (2 years) and twice a week with The Frank Sullivan Duo (3 years)*

Red Onion - *Monthly solo guitar (6 months)*

Cafe Gardens - *Weekly performance with vocalist Patricia Borzych (2 years) and weekly solo guitar (3 years)*

Mellow Mushroom - *Performed with reggae band The Congo Bongo Binghi Boyz (6 months)*

Ti Amo - *Weekly with The Dan Stepp Quartet, and weekly solo guitar (8 months)*

Jet Set - *Weekly with jazz trio (rotating personnel) (6 months)*

Thai Fusion - *Weekly with jazz trio (rotating personnel) (6 months)*

Sharab Lounge – *Performed with the Nick DeCarlis Quintet (over 6 months)*

The Savannah Grande - *Performances for the annual Gainesville Jazz Festival*

#### JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

Ocean 60 - *Performances with Toscha Comeaux Group, Dot Wilder Group, Al Maniscalco Group, Ray Callender Quintet, Linda Cole Quintet, Taylor Roberts/Chris Thomas Duo, and 4 private events (solo guitar, guitar & bass duo)*

Jacksonville Landing - *Jacksonville Jazz Fest performance with St. Johns River City Band*

Kickbacks Gastropub - *Weekly duo with Ray Callender (3+ years)*

Simon's Wine Bar - *Performances with jazz duos/trios/quartets (2002-2004)*

also performances for the Gainesville Friends of Jazz - *Performed with The Frank Sullivan Quartet (2004-2008)*

Dionysus Wine Bar - *Monthly solo guitar performances (1 year)*

Fus - *Weekly with The Dan Stepp Quartet (4 months)*

Downtown Plaza - *Festival of the Arts (Taylor Roberts Quintet, Cathy DeWitt Group, Congo Bongo Binghi Boyz)*

Phillips Center for the Performing Arts - *Performed with The Gosia & Ali Quartet*

Harn Art Museum - *Played various private events/art shows (solo guitar and jazz trio)*

Gainesville Golf and Country Club - *Holiday duos with Frank Sullivan*

Stephen C. O'Connell Center - *Fundraising events for STOP! Children's Cancer (Fall of 2008, 2009, 2010)*

Porter's on the Avenue - *Weekly with Brian Johnston/Jimmy Ciaravino group (6 months)*

Casbah Cafe - *Performances with jazz trio*

Brick Restaurant - *Performances with Time2Swing, Sam Rodriguez Group, John Ricci Trio/Quartet*

Landshark Cafe - *Performances with The Nico de Gallo Trio*

11<sup>th</sup> South - *NYE performance with Billy Thornton*

Jazzland Cafe - *Performances with jazz quartets/trios (rotating personnel) (4 months)*

Sun Dog Diner - *Performances with Billy Thornton*

Mezza Luna - *Performances with UNF Jazz Trio*

TPC Sawgrass - *Performed with Dot Wilder, and multiple private/corporate events*

Sawgrass Marriott - *Multiple private/corporate events*

Matthew's - *Duo performances with Patrick Evan*

Restaurant Medure - *Duo performances with Claude Bassingthwaite (2003)*

Vino's - *Performances with jazz groups (rotating personnel)*

Jacksonville Jazz Festival - *(various stages) 2002, 2004, 2007, 2011*

Ritz Theater - *Performances with the Ritz Jazz Orchestra, Scott Giddens Group, Jazz Crusaders Tribute Band, Herbie Hancock Tribute Band*

Urban Flats - *Performances with Carol Sheehan Group*

Lazarra Amphitheater (UNF) - *Performed with various UNF Jazz Ensembles/Combos*

The Brasserie - *Weekly duos with Dot Wilder (6 months, 2009)*

The Copper Top - *Performed with The Chris Thomas Trio*

#### ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

Stogies Jazz Club - *Multiple performances from 2003-2011*

Sangrias Wine & Tapas Bar - *Multiple performances from 2004-2011*

Rhett's Piano Bar - *Multiple performances from 2010-2011*

Casa Monica Hotel - *Multiple performances from 2003-2011*

Tini Martini Bar/Casablanca Inn - *Multiple performances from 2006-2011*

Ortega Country Club - *Performed with Peggie Black*

San Jose Country Club - *Annual solo guitar performances for the St. John's Dinner Club (2011, 2012, 2013)*

Fusion Wine Bar - *Weekly duo performances with Ray Callender (8 months)*

European Street - *Performances with the Linda Cole Group, Cathy DeWitt Group, Taylor Roberts Quartet and Bowlus/Roberts Duo*

Grotto Wine Bar - *Performed with The John Ricci Trio*

The Grape Wine Bar - *Performances with The John Lumpkin Trio, The John Ricci Trio, The Taylor Roberts Trio, and The Nancy Crider Duo*

Theatre Jacksonville - *Performed with The Ray Callender Quintet*

Jax Sports Bar - *Weekly performances in the "house band" for the Wednesday Blues Jam*

Mulligan's - *Weekly performances with Time2Swing (4 months)*

The Eclate - *Performed as "house band" during Jacksonville Jazz Festival 2002*

Zhanra's - *Performed with The Von Barlow trio (2008)*

Reef Restaurant - *Wedding reception (2007)*

River House - *Multiple wedding receptions (2009-2012)*

Madre's - *Weekly "jazz jam" performances (2011)*



SEA ISLAND, GEORGIA

Lodge at Sea Island - *Fridays & Saturdays (9 months)*

Cloister at Sea Island - *Sundays & Mondays (7 months)*

Beach Club at Sea Island - *Occasional private events*

Hampton Inn & Suites (Jekyll Island) - *Performances with the Phil Morrison trio*

Murphy's Tavern (St. Simons) - *Performances with The Betsy Shelander Group*

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Savannah Quarters Country Club - *Performed with The Jeremy Davis Quartet*

OCALA, FLORIDA

Herlong Mansion (Micanopy) - *Multiple wedding ceremonies & receptions (solo and various groups)*

Golden Ocala Country Club - *Multiple wedding ceremonies & receptions (solo and various groups)*

Word of Faith Community Church - *Performances at annual "Jazz Night" with The Steve Robinson Group*

AMELIA ISLAND, FLORIDA

Ritz Carlton - *Solo performance, and performance with The Taylor Roberts Quartet*

ST. PETERSBURG BEACH, FLORIDA

Loews Hotel - *Performed with Kai Alece & Company and solo performance for wedding ceremony and cocktail hour*

DUTCH HARBOR, ALASKA

Seven Seas Mariner (cruise ship) - *Performed with The Christian Tamburr Quintet (2009)*

PERFORMANCES – INTERNATIONAL

TOKYO, JAPAN

Seven Seas Mariner (cruise ship) -  
*Performed with The Christian Tamburr  
Quintet (2009)*

OKINAWA, JAPAN  
Seven Seas Mariner (cruise ship) -  
*Performed with The Christian Tamburr  
Quintet (2009)*

PETROPAVLOSKI, RUSSIA  
Seven Seas Mariner (cruise ship) -  
*Performed with The Christian Tamburr  
Quintet (2009)*

#### TEACHING – PRIVATE LESSONS

Music Time (North Jacksonville)  
First Coast Community Music School (FSCJ South Campus)  
Morris Music Academy

#### TEACHING – CLINICS

University of Florida  
Gainesville High School

# PHOTOS

Find a downloadable zip file containing Taylor Roberts' press photos at <http://taylorroberts.info/press>.

# MORE

Find more at [www.taylorroberts.info](http://www.taylorroberts.info).

For booking inquiries, write to [booking@taylorroberts.info](mailto:booking@taylorroberts.info).

For press inquiries, write to [press@taylorroberts.info](mailto:press@taylorroberts.info).

For general inquiries, write to [info@taylorroberts.info](mailto:info@taylorroberts.info).

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