

# FLOUNDER BIO

*"Innovative compositions, unusual instrumentation, impeccable musicianship and interplay between the four performers – all this adds up to make Flounder one of the most interesting and enjoyable jazz bands you'll ever hear."*

- Bruce Grelle, "Evening Jazz", North State Public Radio

*"Regardless of mood swings and atmospheric shifts, this California quartet, led by accomplished composer and guitarist David Dvorin, continuously transmits a sense of the pleasure of music-making."*

- Duane Verh, Jazz and Blues Report

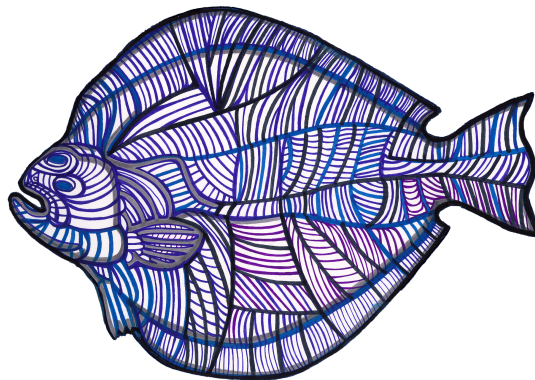
*"David Dvorin creates pure musical alchemy with his band Flounder, combining inspired writing with unique instrumental voicing and brilliant musicianship."*

- Steve Scarborough, "It's Just Jazz", KZFR

Combining the freewheeling groove and grit of mid-century blues and jazz with the intimacy and instrumental interplay of chamber music, **Flounder** was originally formed in 2018 to perform a concert of original works by composer **David Dvorin** at California State University, Chico, where Dvorin is a Professor of Music. The collaboration proved so successful that the four musicians decided to keep the project going, performing and recording Dvorin's original compositions and unique arrangements that emphasize rhythmic feel along with the more adventurous exploration of harmony and texture.

Consisting of Dvorin on electric guitar and modular synthesizer, **Randy McKean** on bass clarinet and tenor saxophone, **Clifford Childers** on bass trumpet, trombone, harmonica and euphonium, and **Tim Bulkley** on drums, the quartet combines the retro and the futuristic with traditional acoustic and electric instruments sharing sonic space with the percolating electronic sounds of the modular synthesizer. Sounding like a much bigger band due to the players' doubling on multiple instruments, the quartet exhibits the swing, swagger, and drive of the best Space-Age Jazz, but distinguishes themselves from your average combo by allowing the low end to be occupied by any member of the group.

Combining tight arrangements with creative improvisation, Flounder thrives in a live setting, performing regionally throughout Northern California, including concerts at universities and music schools such as the California Jazz Conservatory's "Way Out West" series. Their debut release, **I'm The Flounder**, was released on Cure-All Records in the Fall of 2021.



**Info or Booking:**

530-320-7124 • [ddvorin@mac.com](mailto:ddvorin@mac.com)

<http://www.daviddvorin.com/flounder/>

# ABOUT THE MUSICIANS



DAVID DVORIN: COMPOSER/GUITAR/MODULAR SYNTHESIZER

Emmy-nominated composer, guitarist, author, and educator, David Dvorin has had his concert music performed in numerous new music and multimedia festivals around the United States and Europe. Versatile in both electronic and acoustic music mediums, he has written for and collaborated with such notable artists as Terry Riley, the California E.A.R. Unit and the Kronos Quartet.

In addition to producing several CDs and DVDs of his compositional work, David is active as a performer on both guitar and electronics, preferring the intimate musical interactions of small ensemble settings such as duos, trios and quartets. In addition to being the band leader for Flounder, his other performance projects include the chamber-jazz duo, Pull-String with violinist Matej Seda, and the electro-acoustic duo, Zap! with multi-reeds player Randy McKean, both of which also serve as vehicles for David's original compositions.

Regarded internationally as an expert on Apple's Logic Pro software, his textbook, Logic Pro X: Advanced Music Production, now in its fourth edition, has been adopted by educational institutions worldwide, and is the basis for Apple Computer's certified training. David has also served as a professional consultant to music technology companies such as Native Instruments and Apple Computer.

David has been on the faculty at California State University, Chico since 2006, teaching composition, electronic music and recording arts. In addition to his teaching and artistic activities, he is also the Artistic Director for the annual New Music Symposium, which showcases the work of young composers and brings acclaimed contemporary composers and performers to the North State area of California.



RANDY MCKEAN: BASS CLARINET/TENOR SAXOPHONE

Randy McKean leads or co-leads several bands, including the chamber jazz quartet Bristle, the African-trance ensemble Tumble, the saxophone quartet Goggle, the ecstatic sax/drums duo Pac and Seep, and the acoustic-electronics duo The Gargantius Effect. He is a long-time member of Beaucoup Chapeaux, David Dvorin's Flounder, and Ludi Hinrichs' Chickenbonz. McKean's releases include the CDs *Wild Horsey Ride*, Goggle's *Eeyahdi* (Cure-All), Tumble's *Waves* (Cure-All)

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and *Music for Trio* (Bandcamp), Bristle's *Future(s) Now(s)* (Queen Bee) and *Bulletproof* (Edgetone), *So Dig This Big Crux* (Rastascan), the Great Circle Saxophone Quartet's *Child King Dictator Fool* (New World), and the electronic releases Pac and Seep's *Cap and Piece* and *Live at Earthtone* (Bandcamp), and *Gargantius Effect +1+2+3* (w/Han-earl Park, Gino Robair & Scott Looney).

He studied with trumpeter Paul Smoker and composers Anthony Braxton and David Rosenboom. He has lived and worked in the San Francisco Bay Area and New York City, and since 2002, he has lived in Grass Valley, California, located in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. His radio show *The Outpost* aired on Nevada City's KVMR from 2007 to 2012.



## CLIFFORD CHILDERS: TROMBONE/BASS TRUMPET/EUPHONIUM/HARMONICA

Clifford Childers is a freelance trombonist who relocated to the Sacramento area after nearly two decades in Los Angeles.

During his time in Los Angeles, Childers performed with pop stars Elton John, Brian Wilson, Linda Ronstadt and Leon Russell. Childers is known for his big sound and open expressiveness, and has added his unique voice to artists ranging from jazz singer Diane Reeves to rapper Kanye West to conguero Francisco Aguabella. Childers was also an active studio and session musician in LA, having performed on a number of commercials and films, as well as making television appearances with the "The Tonight Show" and "The Ellen DeGeneres Show".

Childers has performed with many Northern California groups such as Pacific Mambo Orchestra, Nagual, The Nibblers, Element Brass Band, City of Trees Brass Band, and Flounder, as well as leading his own latin influenced group All the Pretty Songs/ Canciones Bonitas. Childers has also performed with Sacramento Philharmonic, Broadway at Music Circus, Stockton Symphony, Fresno Philharmonic, and the Monterey Symphony. Collaborations of note include Ross Hammond, Satoko Fujii, Vinny Golia, Taylor Ho Bynum, Dwight Trible, Bobby Bradford, Phillip Greenlief, David Boyce, Karl Alfonso Evangelista, Catherine Sikora, Uriah Duffy, and Tony Passarell.

Childers is also an accomplished harmonicist, having played both diatonic and chromatic harmonicas in many genres including jazz, avant garde, reggae and blues, as well as on recording sessions for television and film.

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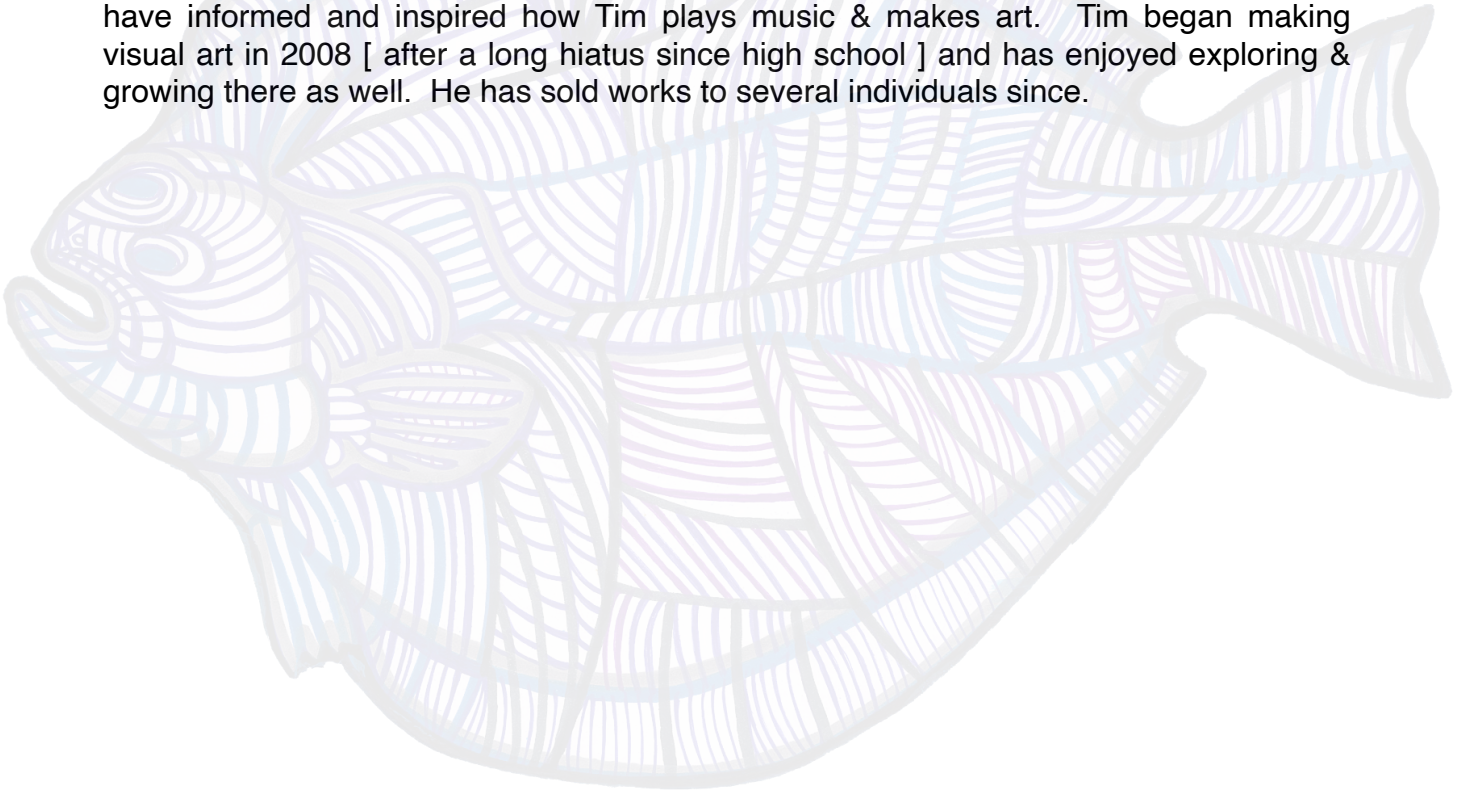
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## TIM BULKLEY: DRUMS

Tim Bulkley is a drummer and artist located in the Northern California area.

Tim is known for a musical, intuitive approach to drumming. He grew up taking piano lessons, taking art classes, singing in choirs & studying the drums. His professional career as a musician started early and has stayed a constant for over 25 years. He has played and recorded with artists including Dayna Stephens, Michelle Amador, Goh Nakamura, Evan Francis, Anton Schwartz, The Invisible Cities, John Lester, Postmodern Jukebox, Adam Platt, Stacey Kent, Boz Scaggs, Peter Bernstein, Telepathy, Wil Blades, Dandelion Dance Company and BodyVox Dance. Tim spent the years of 2006 - 2017 living and working in Brooklyn NY and 2000 - 2006 living and working in San Francisco CA. Both have informed and inspired how Tim plays music & makes art. Tim began making visual art in 2008 [ after a long hiatus since high school ] and has enjoyed exploring & growing there as well. He has sold works to several individuals since.



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