

# Christian Gruber-Ruesz

## Instant Asia

The mandolin is a plucked stringed instrument from the 18th century belonging to the lute family that earned its place in the Baroque and Classical music of composers such as; Antonio Vivaldi, Domenico Scarlatti, Beethoven, Hummel and Paganini. Around 1800 the Mandolin was predominant in Vienna and therefore boasts a great tradition in classical music. While it was never adopted as a main instrument for Jazz, the mandolin did find its way into American music in such forms as Bluegrass and Country, played by virtuosos such as Bill Monroe and David Grisman.

Mike Marshall is one of these Modern virtuosos (Gator Strut) and recently Chris Thile the man called the Bluegrass Paganini praised for his work with American jazz pianist Brad Mehldau.

Christian Gruber-Ruesz is a guitarist based in Vienna who proved his great ability already playing the Bouzouki and Gypsy Guitar on his first record "Sunny-Live at Aera". On his newest record he plays strictly Mandolin and lets his notes run free in the Jazz context. Like on "Sunny" (1999) Christian Gruber-Ruesz plays with the outstanding pianist Roland Guggenbichler and bassist Karl Sayer who leave their mark on this attractive album, with a wonderful combination of the hammered and plucked strings. Also taking part is the versed and often funky drummer Christian Grobauer, and as guitar duo partner Loren Couch. Together they offer jazz with the pleasant joy of playing and without the exaggerations of technical ability in the compositions of: Andy Laverne, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Wayne Shorter, Paquito D'Rivera and Karl Sayer himself.

Christian Gruber-Ruesz places the mandolin sound not as the main event but rather the interaction between the musicians to create a bright and pleasing band sound that can work on the listener for hours. The sound the musicians create is so natural one can hardly believe the mandolin is an unusual instrument for Jazz. Christian Gruber-Ruesz furthers the music of the mandolin with Latin American, Asian, jazzy, funky, swinging influences. He brings the mandolin into new territory.  
(Christian Bakonyi)



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**CHRISTIAN  
GRUBER-RUESZ**  
FEATURING ROLAND GUGGENBICHLER KARL SAYER CHRISTIAN GROBAUER LOREN COUCH  
**INSTANT  
ASIA**



### Tracklisting

01. El Cura (5:43)
02. Sanskrit (5:17)
03. Process Of Illumination (7:18)
04. Vishnus Bicycle (6:17)
05. Instant Asia (3:59)
06. Meditation (3:58)
07. Tenderly (5:48)
08. Waiting On You (3:03)

### Lineup:

Christian Gruber-Ruesz, mandolin  
Roland Guggenbichler, piano  
Karl Sayer, bass  
Christian Grobauer, drums  
Loren Couch, guitar

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