

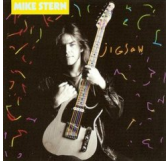
## Mike Stern - Jigsaw (1989)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 10 March 2011 09:48 - Last Updated Monday, 09 February 2015 15:24

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## Mike Stern - Jigsaw (1989)



1. *Another Way Around*
2. *Loose Ends*
3. *To Let You Know*
4. *Jigsaw* [play](#)
5. *Chief*
6. *Rhyme Or Reason*
7. *Kwirk*

Mike Stern: guitar

Michael Brecker: Akai EWI en "Chief"

Jeff Andrews: bass electric & Fretless

Denis Chambers: drums in "Loose ends", "Jigsaw" and "Chief"

Bob Berg: sax tenor

Jim Beard: keyboards

Peter Erskine: drums

Manolo Badrena: shekére in "Another way around", bongos in "Chief" .

Another fusion album and a great one. It starts with Another Way Around, some overdrive solo-ing by Mike. Loose Ends follows, a jazzy piece. A slower song emerges in To Let You Know. Then my favourite: Jigsaw. This has a great rythm, great stuff with sax and the guitar and a great solo. Chief features the great Michael Brecker on EWI. In Rhyme Or Reason Mike shows his ability on the acoustic guitar, a nice ballad. The album closes with Kwirk, which is another uptempo jazzy piece.

In a career that spans three decades and a discography that includes more than a dozen eclectic and innovative recordings, five-time GRAMMY nominee Mike Stern has established

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himself as one of the premier jazz and jazz-fusion guitarists and composers of his generation. Born in Boston in January 1953, Stern grew up in Washington, DC, then returned to Boston to study at the Berklee College of Music. After college, he got his start as a guitar player with Blood, Sweat & Tears at age 22. Following a brief stint with Billy Cobham's powerhouse fusion band from 1979 to 1980, he moved to New York City, where he was recruited by Miles Davis to play a key role in Miles' celebrated comeback band of 1981 (which also included bassist Marcus Miller, drummer Al Foster, percussionist Mino Cinelu and saxophonist Bill Evans). During his three-year period with Miles, Stern appeared on three recordings with the jazz maestro – Man with the Horn, Star People and the live We Want Miles. He toured with Jaco Pastorius' Word of Mouth Band from 1983 through 1985 and returned to Miles' lineup for a second tour of duty that lasted close to a year.

In 1985, Stern recorded Neesh, his first recording as a leader, for the Japan-based Trio label. A year later, he made his debut on Atlantic with Upside Downside, featuring such celebrated colleagues as David Sanborn, Jaco Pastorius, saxophonist Bob Berg, bassists Mark Egan and Jeff Andrews, keyboardist Mitch Forman and drummers Dave Weckl and Steve Jordan. Over the next two years, Stern was a member of Michael Brecker's potent quintet, appearing on Don't Try This At Home. In the summer of 1986, Stern took to the road with David Sanborn and later joined an electrified edition of Steps Ahead, which featured Mike Mainieri on midi vibes, Michael Brecker on the Electronic Wind Instrument (EWI), Darryl Jones on electric bass and Steve Smith on drums.

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