



BJ Leiderman & Kenny White Piano/Piano

Two parallel musical paths; one a studio mainstay in NY, producing a handful of albums as well as hundreds of TV and radio "jingles," the other broadly known as the composer behind so many of the NPR shows that have been woven into the American tapestry, those parallel paths of Kenny White and BJ Leiderman have now intersected. Both having grown up in front of the piano, they have decided to merge their talents and join forces at center stage. The concerts will be a triptych of songs, the stories behind them, and mutual piano prowess (with some guitar, too!). Kenny and BJ will perform solo and with each other, and will hope to provide through this musical odyssey the answer to, "What took them so long to get here?"

BJ LEIDERMAN

For over four decades on NPR, many stories and voices have come and gone. But one sound has endured: the theme music of **BJ Leiderman**. BJ's public radio themes have bolstered award-winning shows including *Morning Edition*, *Weekend Edition*, *Marketplace*, *Science Friday*, *Car Talk*, and *Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me!* But there is a side to BJ's musical talents that not many people have experienced firsthand. For years, Leiderman has performed his original songs along with his favorite cover tunes as part of The BJ Leiderman Band. And now, on his critically acclaimed debut album, "BJ," Leiderman is backed by The Randall Bramblett Band and accompanied by special guest Béla Fleck.

"Leiderman's seemingly effortless ability to craft [memorable melodies] is on brilliant display throughout the 15 tunes on BJ. Among the singer-songwriter crowd...Leiderman has a pop sensibility that only [Carole] King would possess."

- Bill Kopp, Mountain Xpress

"As you've heard me say week after week... our theme music is written by BJ Leiderman. He is the John Williams of public radio theme music."

-Scott Simon, NPR's Weekend Edition

"Hey BJ, do you happen to remember anything about our bar mitzvah class?"

-Bob Saget

KENNY WHITE

Kenny White comes to the world of the touring singer-songwriter following a long and successful musical journey. White began his career in the 1970s, touring exclusively as keyboard player for Jonathan Edwards, and later with Livingston Taylor on Linda Ronstadt's legendary "Living in the USA" tour. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, he became a fixture in the NYC studio scene, producing and arranging hundreds of commercials for TV and radio, enabling him to work with artists as renowned and varied as Linda Ronstadt, Gladys Knight, Mavis Staples, Ricky Skaggs, and Aaron Neville. He contributed to many film soundtracks as writer/musician, and appears on dozens of recordings, including Marc Cohn's platinum debut. White's record producing credits include Shawn Colvin's Grammy-nominated song, "I Don't Know Why," as well as the last four solo CDs for Peter Wolf, formerly with the J. Geils Band.

White's music has been discovered in the UK and Europe, where he tours annually in the Spring, and was awarded the International Songwriting Award at the Premi Ciampi music festival in Livorno, Italy. And although he has all but given up his days as a sideman, in 2014 he accepted an offer by none other than Tom Jones to play in his "soul quartet" for a sold-out three-week US tour. Kenny often attracts an intriguing patronage to his concerts. Robert Plant was recently sighted in rapt attention at one of White's solo shows in the UK and Jackson Browne, the same, at one of Kenny's shows in Los Angeles.

"Kenny White has earned a place among my favorite singer/songwriters... and particularly, lyricists. A true wordsmith AND musician he reveals a fine sense of humor, as well." -David Crosby