

## Comments of international students

It is not self-evident that good musicians are also good teachers. But with Martin it is exactly the same. He passes on his theoretical knowledge in an exciting and understandable way, in individual lessons and in his workshops, and in playing practice he can provide tailor-made inputs through his experience, which can be implemented quickly. I have done quite a few internet courses, but the feedback of a competent (and also very likeable) teacher is irreplaceable.

**Christian Rassi - guitar; Graz, Austria**

"The lessons with Martin contain clear concepts that can be applied in practice. His experience in various ensembles flows directly into the lessons and allows for many different influences and styles".

Nicolai Blaskovic - guitar; Graz, Austria; founder and director of the Guitar School

"Musically first-class, stylistically diverse, humanly sympathetic, precisely conducting, tactfully motivating, wittily setting the tone... that's it!

**Christian Kössler - guitar; Graz, Austria**

I was at your workshop in Wels last Friday - I'm the one who had to leave earlier because of my concert - a circumstance that I felt very sorry for, because I would have loved to experience the rest of your workshop. Anyway, I want to thank you very much, I took the script at home, it's a great approach for someone who hasn't been so much into jazz.

Greetings and all the best

**Ivo Truhlar - guitar; workshop participant VielsaitenFestival Wels, Austria**

"Meeting Martin has been one of my best experiences so far; he is a first class musician, composer, teacher and a wonderful person. I have to admit, however, that it is a complete mystery to me how he manages to do all these things he embodies with such high quality standards and passion. His playing is very inspiring, his compositions are moving and emotional, his teaching is clear, focused and very demanding.

Martin has the rare talent to explain musical concepts of any complexity (how crazy things often are!) on the one hand in clear understandable English, on the other hand clearly with guitar, piano, vocals or notation. Highly recommended!"

**Taras Burko - guitar; L'viv, Ukraine**

"I have known Martin for three years now. He is a great guitarist, composer and teacher. During the International Summer Jazz Academy (ISJA) in Krakow, Poland, I took part in his lessons. He is a very helpful, experienced and competent teacher. I enjoyed not only his guitar master classes, but also his theory and composition lessons. He always gives a lot of practical tips that improve the students' understanding on the fretboard and thus their mastery of the instrument. He deals with the individual problems of the students, always looking for the best possible solution. During ISJA 2008 I had the opportunity to play in Martin's ensemble. There it was really fascinating to see him "in action", how he arranged the music, how he put all the theory he taught in the theory units into practice. As his student I sometimes approach him with various doubts or questions and he always answers all of them with great patience. His favourite saying, which I remember from his lessons, is 'There are no stupid questions, there can only be stupid answers'. What else can I say? "Enjoy your lessons with Martin!"

**Katarzyna Zawieracz - guitar; Cracow, Poland**

"I learned a lot of interesting things from Martin Schaberl about structures in music, dynamics in pieces and compositions. I was also able to learn some interesting areas about playing the guitar that you don't learn from books; something like that only comes from a good teacher, guitarist and musician".

**Oskar Paldeak - guitar; Bratislava, Slovakia**

"...and I just wanted to say that I was very satisfied with the lessons, there is nothing comparable in Graz."

**Patrick Demichiel - guitar; Graz, Austria**

"When Martin first came to Brazil, I asked him to give me some lessons I was very happy when he accepted. We spent 2 hours playing together and it was incredible! A lot of great information and beautiful music from his hand then and of course still. When he comes back here, I will do the same again!"

**André Bordinhon - guitar; São Paulo, Brazil**

"I met Martin at the International Summer Jazz Academy in Krakow, Poland. I was quite lucky to spend almost half of the entire workshop time with him. From the beginning I was enthusiastic about Martin's knowledge, wisdom and patience. In the theory sessions he was able to answer literally any question and create a really well working group of people, most of whom were seeing each other for the first time. The same thing happened in Combo Class.

Martin was not only an extraordinary teacher, but also acted as a friend to die for. I also liked his attitude towards the students - always there and willing to help us and give us one of his countless tips.

In my opinion Martin is a true master, an incomparable teacher, wonderful musician and one of the friendliest people I have ever met. I do not regret a single moment I spent with him. Many thanks Martin!

Goodbye until next year!"

**Michał Piechota - bass; Zywiec, Poland**

"The best music teacher is - in my opinion - not one who teaches you music theory, scales, chords and "The hundred super jazz guitar licks" or anything like that. The most important thing for me is inspiration.

After each lesson with Martin I felt incredible inspiration through his playing and the motivation to play 48 hours a day. Without a doubt. So far I have only met two guitar teachers with these magical abilities. Martin is one of them. He's great."

**Łukasz Szczygiel - guitar, Cracow, Poland**

There are many things that make a good teacher, but some are particularly hard to find.

One of these things is, for example, when the teacher has such a comprehensive knowledge of his subject that he can explain it clearly to even the dumbest people. Another is when he is very good at what he does, but at the same time completely forgets himself while teaching, as he concentrates completely on the success of his students, which eventually becomes his own again.

Martin combines both qualities in himself. Very professional, always very well prepared, but at the same time very flexible. I recommend him for any kind of music related teaching.

Thanks again for the great time in Krakow - I learned a lot and am inspired to continue working on my music! :-)

**Marta Loboda - piano, vocals; Warsaw, Poland**

"The lessons with you were undoubtedly a signpost for my musical understanding and therefore in further consequence for my life. The teaching methods are meaningful and motivating and the effort to bring the student further, even if he or she doesn't like it, makes the lessons a balanced mixture of fun and success.

**Valentin Grbic - guitar; Graz, Austria**

Hey Martin, remember me, I'm one of the students @ the Guitar School EM&T in São Paulo.

Congratulations on your work here! Thank you for the lessons and the units you gave here at the school EM&T, São Paulo, Brazil. I practiced the chords you presented here, and even used them in my own lessons. :-D It was great to meet them. Thanks for everything, you are always welcome here! Thank you! Hug! Success!..

**Fernando Alvarenga - guitar; São Paulo, Brazil**

"I first met Martin in 2005 at the International Summer Jazz Academy (ISJA) in Krakow, Poland. At other ISJAs I deepened this connection. For two weeks I had the opportunity to observe his abilities not only as a guitar teacher of students of different levels (beginners to professionals), but also as a band leader, solo guitarist (he used loop machines and spontaneously caught ideas) and as a vocal and choir coach. All these skills make Martin a jazz teacher who is able to see music from different angles.

I took some private lessons with Martin - "live" and via internet (Skype Online Lessons). He was always very carefully prepared for each unit, gave me a lot of extra material to work with, which was to remind me after the lesson of the new and important things I had just learned. I think this is very important because - if you

have been inspired by this unit - you have the possibility to work with the material yourself afterwards. In this case you can work with only one lesson for at least a week or longer.

Martin reads music very well, but also has excellent hearing, which allows him to play each piece with all his senses. On the one hand he has the background of a classical and on the other hand a jazz guitar education, but at the same time he is self-taught in all other styles. This gives him the ability to understand the problems of young musicians. He always knows how to be on the side of these people.

I personally stay in contact with Martin and am looking forward to seeing his musical development on his new recordings. He's a great teacher, yet he gets even better from time to time!"

**Wojciech Lipiński - guitar; Łódź, Poland**

"How can you describe someone you will remember for the rest of your life when you first see them play? Martin, you're HELL OF A PLAYER!"

**Max Itani - guitar; L'viv, Ukraine**

"I met Martin in 2005 at the International Summer Jazz Academy in Krakow. He was one of the theory teachers and my combo teacher at that time. As far as I can remember, I was at the advanced combo level at that time. Most of us were just starting to improvise.

The way Martin brought all these things together was incredible for me. He was very calm and relaxed. He didn't look like a strict person. At the same time it was obvious that the whole situation was under his control.

During the lessons Martin showed us the basics of this music which I still use today. He taught us a comprehensive approach to learning tunes and music in general.

Although Martin is a guitarist, he was able to give useful tips to all the different instrumentalists.

Everything was understandable and clear for me. He just knew what to do.

It was the first time I saw a teacher who taught effectively but without any pressure in such a simple way. By the way, the performance of our combo was considered one of the best at that time."

**Roman Bardun - piano; L'viv, Ukraine**

Mr. Martin Schaberl organized a Jazz Workshop in Graz. In addition to general music theory, the workshop dealt specifically with the theoretical basics of jazz, for example, the creation of harmonic sequences in modern jazz. The knowledge of common harmonic sequences is a useful basis for improvisation and for writing songs. The theoretical explanations were also explained by selected audio examples. This workshop is very useful not only for the understanding of modern jazz but also for the practical application when learning to play the jazz guitar.

In summary it can be said that the workshop was excellently organized. An excellent extensive script was available for further study.

**Gerald Gübitz - guitar, Graz, Austria**

"I met Martin at the International Summer Jazz Academy in Kraków, Poland, in July 2011. He made a big impression on me - he is not only a good musician, he also knows how to work with people and teach them. He listens carefully to people and quickly clarifies what they need. So he showed us exactly the things we wanted to learn and also the things he thought were important and crucial. As far as I know, every student was very happy and satisfied with both courses - Guitar Masterclass and Jazz Theory.

Martin also led the combo I played in - his tips on how a band works were also great.

I am very happy that I met Martin and I am looking forward to seeing him again next year.

Thanks for everything, you're a fantastic teacher, you've done everything possible, even a lot more than you had to do."

**Patryk Adamkiewicz - guitar; Krakow, Poland**

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Two years later:

Hey Martin, I just want to tell you how much I enjoyed being in your class at the International Summer Jazz Academy in Krakow.

Even though it was a few years ago, I still remember your experiences, your passion for the instrument and music, and I think I immediately liked you for all of this, also because I was on your wavelength. Your

exercises still keep me busy and I am still hungry for a better flow of information between my mind and the sound coming out of the amp.

"I can still remember that for the first lesson I was only supposed to take 3 CDs with me to show what kind of music I wanted to make (that was "3 chords punk" back then). After I had learned these 3 chords quite soon, I found more and more pleasure in more complex and interesting sounds and meanwhile I like to listen and play any kind of music. I always enjoyed the lessons and probably contributed to my staying with music - privately as well as during my studies (musicology)".

**Thomas Gütl - guitar; Graz, Austria**

"Hi Martin! I am very happy that I could attend your jazz theory classes and your combo at the International Summer Jazz Academy 2010 in Krakow. You proved that you are a very great musician and an impressive teacher. I was very very surprised that you have such an extensive and profound knowledge of music in its entirety. Arrangement, music theory, a whole lot more. I really appreciate your attention to the students and the level you teach! You are a truly passionate and professional musician. Thank you very much!"

**Jacek Małota - guitar; Wrocław, Poland**

Martin, I would like to thank you for being my teacher at the International Summer Jazz Academy in Kraków this year. As a member of the combo led by you, I had the great pleasure to work with you. I learned a lot and tried some difficult things that I would not do alone.

Thanks also for sharing your experience with us. I can't wait for next year's workshop!

**Aleksandra Skocz - vocals; Kraków, Poland**

"Martin is a fantastic musician, arranger and composer. I noticed that immediately at one of his concerts. I later had the honour of having ensemble and theory lessons with him, during which I realised that he is also a brilliant teacher who easily transfers his knowledge into the minds and imaginations of his students".

**Szymon Fortuna - drums; Cracow, Poland**

Martin Schaberl is an incredible guitarist and theory teacher. I felt very comfortable in his lessons. He talks and explains things in a very interesting way, even I, who didn't really know anything about jazz harmony until now, could understand everything and learn a lot in this course.

He explains a lot with the help of many examples, which he supports with the piano. It is very helpful if you can hear the things and details just explained.

I really appreciate this work and thank Martin for everything. I hope to see him again next year at the Academy in Cracow.

**Mikołaj Buszko - drums; Kraków, Poland**

"I met Martin in 2005 at the International Summer Jazz Academy in Krakow. He was one of the theory teachers and my combo teacher at that time. As far as I can remember, I was at the advanced combo level at that time. Most of us were just starting to improvise.

The way Martin brought all these things together was incredible for me. He was very calm and relaxed. He didn't look like a strict person. At the same time it was obvious that the whole situation was under his control.

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**Roman Bardun - piano; L'viv, Ukraine**

"My sister and I have been attending the classes of Mag. Martin Schaberl for two years. Professionally, he brings out the best in the students and promotes their strengths and preferences. One can immerse oneself in a wide variety of musical styles."

**Elisa Höfler - guitar/ukulele; Kapfenberg, Austria**

"On the whole, the guitar lessons with Mag. Schaberl are very well designed, I always have the feeling that he prepares well for each lesson in order to support each student individually. During the lessons he passes on his knowledge very well and you really learn something new every lesson, even if you repeat something, for example. He attaches great importance to the fact that each student understands everything he plays on the guitar, ukulele or piano. You can see that he has a lot of experience in playing the guitar as well as in teaching. I can only recommend learning to play the guitar with Mr. Schaberl."

**Elias Breitegger - guitar; Kapfenberg, Austria**