

Michel Héroux has been honing his skills on the Montréal music scene for more than 25 years. He studied classical guitar at the Cégep de Joliette-Lanaudière, where he was awarded first prize in the category of 20 years old and younger by 'Les Jeunesses Musicales', and also won the prize 'Expression Musicale Inter-Collégial'. It was during this period that he discovered jazz, and the music of John Scofield. Inspired by this, Michel decided to pursue his studies in jazz guitar at Concordia University, obtaining his degree with distinction.

There he studied with, amongst others, Gary Schwartz, Joe Sullivan and Jan Jarczyk. Even before leaving University, Michel started his activities in the music scene, working in such diverse styles as rock, pop and jazz. In 1992 he founded the group Bacchus, a francophone band, whose progressive rock/metal sound was inspired by the bands of his youth such as Rush and Yes. His impressive jazz fusion improvisations and his exceptional technique received special attention in the renowned magazine Guitar Player. In 1994 the group produced their album titled Bacchus, under an independent record label. Parallel to all these adventures, Michel has had the chance to work with numerous Québec artists on stage as well as in the studio. As a studio musician he has participated in many television and radio programs, as well as several film scores and a multitude of commercial jingles. However, composing remains one of his principal passions. In 2002, he was the winner of the 'Concours National de la Chanson Primée', of the 'Festival de la Chanson de Granby', for the music of the song 'Un Château', one of his original compositions. In 2007 he launched his first album of jazz original compositions, Conversation (FND074), which featured Chet and Jim Doxas, Aron Doyle and Zack Lober. His second album, Greasy Spoon (MIHER02), was out in 2009 and featured again Zack Lober on bass, and Thom Gossage on drums.

His third cd, 'Collage' (MIHER03), a collection of guitar instrumentals exploring different faces of jazz, was out in 2013. Michel was also a member of Tim Brady's 'Instruments of Happiness', a guitar quartet exploring adventurous new music for electric guitar.

Michel now divides his time between composing, accompanying, studio work and teaching. He performs regularly in the Montréal area with numerous groups and musicians. His album 'Now', a more 'rock' oriented project, will be available in January 2019.

[www.michelheroux.net](http://www.michelheroux.net)