



## Alex Skolnick BY BARRY CLEVELAND

AFTER MAKING HIS MARK AS LEAD GUITARIST FOR Bay Area thrash metal band Testament during the late '80s and early '90s, Alex Skolnick got a serious jazz jones that propelled him to New York City. There, he immersed himself in the scene, and earned a music degree from New School University. In 2001, Skolnick reemerged

as the leader of the Alex Skolnick Trio.

The Trio's 2002 debut, *Goodbye to Romance: Standards For a New Generation* featured jazz arrangements of classic hard rock and metal tunes, and it proved to have surprisingly broad appeal—even being warmly received by the straight jazz community. *Transformation*, released