Gary Burton is a jazz vibraphonist, composer, and jazz educator. Burton developed a pianistic style of four-mallet technique as an alternative to the prevailing two-mallet technique. He has been heralded as an innovator and his sound and technique are widely imitated. He is also known for pioneering fusion jazz and popularizing the duet format in jazz, as well as being a major figure in music education due to his 33 years of teaching at the Berklee College of Music, and his many years of service as executive vice president of Berklee.

Gary has recorded over 60 albums and won 7 Grammy Awards. Beginning in the 1960s, when he was still a teenager, Gary has performed with almost every major jazz musician.