SUMMER FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

CENTRUM creativity in community

Wycliffe Gordon

JULY 25-31

PORT TOWNSEND

John Clayton, Artistic Director

FORT WORDEN STATE PARK, PORT TOWNSEND SUPPLEMENT TO THE JULY 20, 2022 PORT TOWNSEND & JEFFERSON COUNTY LEADER

SUMMER AT CENTRUM

WELCOME TO CENTRUM'S 49TH SEASON!



AS WE RETURN to programs in-person again at Fort Worden State Park, I invite you to join the global Centrum community of artists in the pursuit of lifelong learning, the arts, and the honoring of diverse cultures and traditions.

DISCOVER creative workshops, mainstage performances, nightclub events, free literary

readings, lectures, dances, artist residencies, youth programs, and so much more.

OUR PROGRAMS this year will welcome participants in-person (up to date vaccine required for all campus visitors in 2022) as well as online. As always, we welcome youth age 18 and younger to all performances for free, with an advance reservation, following our COVID protocols.

AGAIN THIS SUMMER our Blues and Jazz in the Clubs concerts will occur in venues throughout Fort Worden. We encourage club-goers to enjoy a meal and shopping in downtown Port Townsend before heading to the Fort.

And for afternoon McCurdy Pavilion concerts in the summer, gates open at Noon with BBQ available on site.

THE CENTRUM COMMUNITY is grateful for support from the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington State Arts Commission, Washington State Parks Commission, City of Port Townsend, Jefferson County, and the Fort Worden PDA. On behalf of the Centrum staff and board, I extend our thanks to all of our donors and sponsors who support our mission and Centrum's unique role in the Puget Sound community.

See you at Centrum!

Robert a. Comman

Robert A. Birman Executive Director

(800) 746-1982 • centrum.org



Summer Concerts at Centrum in the McCurdy Pavilion

FREE FRIDAYS AT THE FORT

Bring a picnic and some sunscreen to enjoy Centrum's annual Free Fridays at the Fort concert series showcasing jazz, blues and fiddle tunes performers, among others.

This free lunchtime concert series is on the lawn of the Nora Porter Commons. Weather in June and July is usually nice, but in the rare event of inclement weather, an alternative venue will be posted at Centrum.org.

ALL CONCERTS AT NOON

Friday, July 22: Artists TBA

Friday, July 29: Jazz Port Townsend

Showcase

Friday, August 5: Acoustic Blues

Showcase

Free Fridays Family Concerts are made possible with the generous support of the following sponsors:



Making a difference. Together.



THANK YOU

Centrum offers profound thanks to the foundation and government entities that support our distinctive mission. Their grants help fuel our programming and their imprimatur assists Centrum's efforts to broaden support for its services throughout the state and nation.



















Centrum's corporate sponsors include regional, national, and international corporations that understand the value of supporting the arts. Their contributions foster the creativity and sense of kinship that has thousands of workshop participants and audience members converging for Centrum's 2022 summer season.

SUMMER SEASON SCHEDULE

JULY

JAZZ PORT TOWNSEND

Saturday, July 30, 1:30 pm

Joel Frahm, Jay Thomas, George Cables, Chuck Deardorf, Matt Wilson, Sara Gazarek, Grace Kelly, Marion Hayden, Dawn Clement, Allison Miller, Tamir Hendelman, Jon Hamar, Jeff Hamilton

Saturday, July 30, 7:30 pm

Wycliffe Gordon, Adrian Cunningham, John Hansen, Chris Symer, Allison Miller, Terell Stafford, Wycliffe Gordon, Grace Kelly, Joel Frahm, Bruce Forman, Jeremy Siskind, John Clayton, Matt Wilson

JULY (cont.)

JAZZ IN THE CLUBS

Fort Worden Venues

Friday, July 29, 7:30 pm - 10 pm Saturday, July 30, 10 pm - 12:30 am

AUGUST

PORT TOWNSEND ACOUSTIC BLUES FESTIVAL

Saturday August 6, 1:30 pm Acoustic Blues Showcase

AUGUST (cont.)

BLUES IN THE CLUBS

Fort Worden Venues

Friday, August 5, 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm Saturday, August 6, 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm

SEPTEMBER

PORT TOWNSEND UKULELE WORKSHOP

Thursday, September 8, 7:30 pm Ukulele Bonanza Concert #1

Friday, September 9, 7:30 pm Ukulele Bonanza Concert #2

Purchase tickets online at Centrum.org or call (800) 746-1982. THANK YOU!



WELCOME TO JAZZ PORT TOWNSEND







Gregg Miller

Welcome to our 47th season of Jazz Port Townsend! We are back! We can't tell you how good it feels to greet you live and in person. We've all worked so hard the past three years, now this feels like our reward.

Artistic Director John Clayton has once again done a masterful job of identifying musicians who are outstanding as both educators and performers. They've been here all week sharing their artistry with 120+ workshop participants. Please note that this week there are two great ways to enjoy this uniquely American music: (1) on our Mainstage, with the energy a large crowd creates, or (2) in a club setting, where you're close enough to see the all the nuances of an intimate performance. We hope you'll experience both.

John likes to talk about the jazz community as a family (if he greets you with a boisterous "Hello family!" just shout it right back—you'll feel right at home). Family is a great metaphor for the atmosphere among the faculty and participants at our Jazz Port Townsend workshop. This year we are pleased to introduce to you some new members of our Centrum Jazz family. Drummer Allison Miller and pianist Jeremy Siskind are both here for the first time, and bassist Marion Hayden was here last year for our one outdoor concert, and now joins us for a full week.

Please come and partake of the offerings at our Friday Jazz Blowout. All sessions that day are free and open to the public. Our hope is that you will come and learn something about jazz that will help you enjoy listening to it even more.

Thanks for being a part of our family, especially if you're joining us for the first time. Welcome, Jazz Port Townsend family!

John Clayton, Artistic Director Gregg Miller, Program Manager

FRIDAY JAZZ BLOWOUT

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2022

10:45-11:45 am - Building 204, Rm. 10 With Matt Wilson

"If You Play the Song, Everything Will Okay!" We become friends with our instruments, practice, study, listen, so we can play songs with our friends! Let's have a gathering where we talk about ways of playing songs. It will be fun and make you happy and your friends happy. Happy Times at Centrum!

12-1:20 pm - Fort Worden Commons Student combo coaching

12:05-12:40 pm with Joel Frahm 12:45-1:20 pm with Allison Miller

1:30-2:45 pm - Schoolhouse, Room D With Jon Hamar and Emma Davis

"Preparing for a College Education in Jazz"
Real-world information from professionals in
higher education. Representatives from Manhattan
School of Music and the University of Tennessee at
Knoxville will speak and answer questions about
what schools look for, applying, financial aid,
how to have a successful audition day and more.
Following the discussion, you'll have time to speak
one-on-one with the panelists.

1:30-2:15 pm - Wheeler Theater Student combo coached by Wycliffe Gordon

Hear this ensemble perform while you observe a professional-level recording session produced by KNKX.

1:30-3:25 pm - USO Building Student combos

1:30-2 pm with Marion Hayden 2:05-2:35 pm with Bruce Forman 2:40-3:10 pm with Jeremy Siskind 3:15-3:45 pm with Jon Hamar

1:30-3:30 pm - Building 204, Room 20 Vocal Students coached by Sara Gazarek

1:30-3:45 pm - Building 204, Room 23 Student Combos

1:30-2 pm with Dawn Clement 2:05-2:35 pm with Chuck Deardorf 2:40-3:10 pm with Matt Wilson 3:15-3:45 pm with Jay Thomas





PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

JAZZ MAINSTAGE CONCERTS

AT MCCURDY PAVILION

Saturday, July 30 at 1:30 pm

SET 1

Joel Frahm, tenor sax Jay Thomas, trumpet George Cables, piano Chuck Deardorf, bass Matt Wilson, drums

SET 2

Sara Gazarek, vocals Grace Kelly, alto sax Marion Hayden, bass Dawn Clement, piano Allison Miller, drums

SET 3

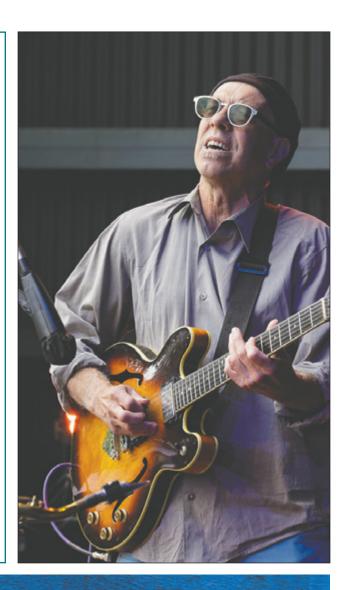
Jeff Hamilton Trio Tamir Hendelman, piano Jon Hamar, bass Jeff Hamilton, drums Saturday, July 30 at 7:30 pm

SET 1

Wycliffe Gordon, trombone
Adrian Cunningham, clarinet/sax
John Hansen, piano
Chris Symer, bass
Allison Miller, drums

SET 2

Terell Stafford, trumpet
Wycliffe Gordon, trombone
Grace Kelly, alto
Joel Frahm, tenor
Bruce Forman, guitar
Jeremy Siskind, piano
John Clayton, bass
Matt Wilson, drums



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PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

JAZZ CLUBS AT FORT WORDEN

Friday, July 29, 7:30 - 10 pm

BUILDING 204 UP SOUTH

Wycliffe Gordon, trombone; Adrian Cunningham, clarinet & sax; Dawn Clement, piano; Marion Hayden, bass; Allison Miller, drums

BUILDING 204 UP NORTH

Grace Kelly, alto sax; Joel Frahm, tenor sax; Terell Stafford, trumpet; Jay Thomas, trumpet; Jeremy Siskind, piano; Chris Symer, bass; Matt Wilson, drums

COMMONS A/B

The Jeff Hamilton Trio featuring Tamir Hendelman, piano; Jon Hamar, bass; Jeff Hamilton, drums

MADRONA MINDBODY

Sara Gazarek, vocal; John Hansen, piano; Bruce Forman, guitar; John Clayton, bass Saturday, July 30, 10 pm - 12:30 am

BUILDING 204 UP SOUTH

Sara Gazarek, vocal; Jay Thomas, trumpet; Dawn Clement, piano; Jon Hamar, bass; Kelby MacNayr, drums

BUILDING 204 UP NORTH

Terell Stafford, trumpet; Joel Frahm, tenor sax; Wycliffe Gordon, trombone; Jeremy Siskind, piano; John Clayton, bass; Matt Wilson, drums

COMMONS A/B

Grace Kelly, alto sax; Adrian Cunningham, clarinet & sax; Bruce Forman, guitar; Randy Halberstadt, piano; Chris Symer, bass; Allison Miller, drums

MADRONA MINDBODY

George Cables, piano; Chuck Deardorf, bass; Jeff Hamilton, drums





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FEATURED ARTISTS

John Clayton - Artistic Director



Grammy-winning bassist/composer/conductor, John Clayton, has written and arranged music for Diana Krall, DeeDee Bridgewater, Natalie Cole, Milt Jackson, Nancy Wilson, McCoy Tyner, Quincy Jones, George Benson, Dr. John, Regina Carter and many others. John has been commissioned by ensembles including the Northwest Chamber Orches-

tra, the American Jazz Philharmonic, the Iceland Symphony, the Metropole Orchestra, the Carnegie Hall Big Band, the WDR Orchestra, and the Amsterdam Philharmonic. John was awarded a platinum record for his arrangement of "The Star-Spangled Banner," performed by Whitney Houston during the Super Bowl in 1990. Clayton has served as the musical director of several jazz festivals including the Sarasota Jazz Festival, the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival, the Santa Fe Jazz Party, and the Vail Jazz Workshop. He is a co-founder of the Grammy-nominated Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, which he co-leads with drummer Jeff Hamilton.

George Cables, Piano



Pianist George Cables has performed and recorded with some of the greatest jazz musicians of our time, including Joe Henderson, Roy Haynes, Max Roach, Art Blakey, Sonny Rollins, Woody Shaw, Sarah Vaughn, Tony Williams, Bobby Hutcherson, and Dizzy Gillespie. He has recorded numerous albums as a soloist and ensemble leader

including the iconic Cables' Vision with Freddie Hubbard. He is noted for his fresh interpretations of classic compositions and for his innovative style of writing.

Dawn Clement, Piano



Pianist, composer, and vocalist Dawn Clement is Assistant Professor and Area Coordinator of the Jazz and American Music Department at Metropolitan State University of Denver. She has five albums under her belt and is involved in several collaborations including the Jane Ira Bloom Quartet,

Priester's Cue (with the legendary trombonist Julian Priester), and her own trio. Dawn has performed with such notables as Nancy King, Ingrid Jensen, Hadley Caliman, John Clayton, Mercer Ellington, and Mark Dresser, and has toured the US with the Sabella Consort and the Rubin/Clement Piano Dialogues.

Chuck Deardorf, Bass



Chuck Deardorf has been an integral member of the Northwest jazz scene for over two decades. A respected acoustic and electric bassist, his dynamic performances have been a part of countless festivals, nightclubs, and recording sessions, touring with such jazz greats as saxophonists Bud Shank and

Don Lanphere; pianists George Cables, Bill Mays, and Kenny Barron; and guitarists Larry Coryell and Bruce Forman. He's performed with legendary artists Chet Baker, Kenny Werner, Herb Ellis, Charlie Byrd, Eric Alexander, Phil Woods, Zoot Sims, Pete Christlieb, Joe LaBarbara, Jeff Hamilton, Victor Lewis, Joe Williams and Mark Murphy.

Chuck Easton, Theory



Multi-instrumentalist and composer Chuck Easton is equally at home on the bass, flute, piano, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and violin, though he is best known for his jazz guitar work. He received his music degree from the Berklee School of Music and plays throughout the Pacific

Northwest. A National Endowment of the Arts Jazz Composition award recipient, Chuck has been a conductor of the Northwest Big Band and teaches jazz improvisation and music theory.

Bruce Forman. Guitar



With eighteen recordings as a leader, and countless sideman recordings including with Ray Brown, Bobby Hutcherson, Roger Kellaway; soundtrack performances on three of Clint Eastwood's distinguished films—most notably Academy Award-winning Million Dollar Baby; producer, arranger, acclaimed educator. Bruce

Forman is in residence at USC's Studio/Jazz Guitar Department. His recent work includes Formanism (his trio project); original works like The Red Guitar; his popular podcast with Scott Henderson, GuitarWank; Cow Bop and the "road challenges" down historic byways like Route 66; JazzMasters Workshop; and his newest project: Junkyard Duo.

Joel Frahm, Sax



Joel Frahm's bold, inventive tenor sound has won fans in the U.S. and across the world. He has worked alongside Betty Carter, Kenny Barron, Freddy Cole, Dianne Schuur, Kurt Elling, Jane Monheit, Bill Charlap, Brad Mehldau, Matt Wilson, Cyrille Aimee, and many other top artists. He has played as a leader or sideman on more than 100

recordings and has appeared at jazz festivals in the United States, Europe, Israel, Canada and South America. In addition to his work as a performer, he has taught jazz classes in clinics at the University of North Carolina, the University of Connecticut, New York University, Wichita State University, the University of North Texas, Baylor University, Colorado State University, Furman University, the University of Toronto, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, the University of Manitoba and others.

Sara Gazarek, Voice



Graced with an "impeccable" voice (Winnipeg Free Press) and hailed as an artist that "may well turn out to be the next important jazz singer" by the LA Times, Sara Gazarek has been one of the leading lights of an impressive generation of jazz vocalists since her brilliant emergence at age 20. While

her subsequent career has been the picture of success - highlighted by five acclaimed albums, an ardent fanbase, enthusiastic reviews, a teaching position at the University of Southern California, and collaborations with such luminaries as Kurt Elling, Fred Hersch, Billy Childs, and Larry Goldings, it is with her latest double GRAMMY® nominated album, Thirsty Ghost, that Gazarek finally brings her musical expression stunningly into phase with her emotional maturity.

Continued on pg. 8



Continued from pg. 7

Wycliffe Gordon, Trombone



Wycliffe Gordon's schedule encompasses performing, composing, arranging and recording. He is the recipient of many awards: He has been named him "Trombonist of the Year" 12 times The Jazz Journalists Association, and "Best Trombone" five of the past six years by the Downbeat Critics Poll. In addition to his solo career,

Wycliffe tours regularly leading his quintet. Wycliffe is a veteran member of the Wynton Marsalis Septet, the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and he has been a featured guest artist on Billy Taylor's "Jazz at the Kennedy Center" Series.

Randy Halberstadt, Piano



Randy Halberstadt has been a major figure on the Pacific Northwest jazz scene for many years. A pianist, arranger, composer, lyricist, and author, Randy enjoys an international performing career playing with musicians at the top of their game, including Herb Ellis, Terry Gibbs, Buddy de Franco, Matt Wilson, Pete Christlieb, Bobby

Shew, Joe LaBarbera, and many others. In 1990, he performed at the Monterey Jazz Festival with drummer Mel Brown. Randy has performed with the Seattle Symphony and is the pianist for the Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra.

Jon Hamar, Bass



Jon Hamar is a versatile bassist who is comfortable in virtually any musical situation. In 2001 Jon relocated to Seattle and was busy as a freelance bassist. He also performed for four years with jazz and blues icon Ernestine Anderson and other Northwest notables such as Greta Matassa, Jim Knapp, Randy Halberstadt,

Dawn Clement, Kelley Johnson and John Hansen. In the Fall of 2015 Jon joined the faculty at the Natalie Haslam School of Music at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Jeff Hamilton, Drums



Versatile drummer, Jeff
Hamilton, brings originality
to every group he performs
with, and it's one of the things
that makes him constantly
in demand, whether for
recording, performing with his
trio, or co-leading the ClaytonHamilton Jazz Orchestra.
In addition to his many
recordings with Ray Brown,
Jeff has been on nearly 200

recordings with artists such as Natalie Cole, Diana Krall, Milt Jackson, Rosemary Clooney, Barbara Streisand, Mel Torme, John Pizzarelli, and Benny Carter. Hamilton is a frequent guest of the WDR Big Band in Cologne, Germany. He also appeared in Natalie Cole's Great Performances PBS special, Unforgettable, and an Oscar Peterson documentary, Life In The Key Of Oscar.

John Hansen, Piano



John Hansen is one of the most in-demand jazz pianists in the Northwest. His performance history includes top U.S. venues as well as tours in France, Japan, Korea, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Russia, and Central America. He has been invited to perform with the Seattle Symphony, Rick Margitza, Randy Brecker, Ingrid Jensen,

Ernestine Anderson, The Woody Herman Orchestra, Bud Shank, Bobby Shew, David "Fathead" Newman, and more.

Marion Hayden, Bass



Marion Hayden is one of the founding members of the all-female ensemble Venus, followed by the band Straight Ahead in collaboration with Regina Carter, pianist Eileen Orr, and drummer Gayelynn McKinney. Her versatility led her to a wide variety of engagements, but also gave her the opportunity to develop her skills as an

educator and she is now on the faculty at the University of Michigan School of Music. She has performed or recorded with such jazz veterans as Kirk Lightsey, Ralph Peterson, Jr., Terry Callier, Dizzy Gillespie, Sonny Fortune, Kenny Burrell, Steve Turre, Cecil Bridgewater and James Carter.



Grace Kelly, Sax



An unequivocal musical prodigy, singer-saxophonist-songwriter-composer and band leader Grace Kelly has rocked the jazz world with sold-out concerts, 13 acclaimed albums and a resume that includes performing at the Hollywood Bowl and as part of the house band for "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" – all before

reaching her mid-twenties. Kelly's early career featured performances at Barack Obama's 2009 inauguration at age 16 and at 14 as a soloist with the Boston Pops playing an original composition arranged for the legendary orchestra; she has since then played over 900 shows as bandleader in 35 countries at venues like the Kennedy Center and Moscow Symphony Hall and for the Montreal, Newport, and Montreux international jazz festivals. Kelly has performed and recorded with renowned artists including Lin Manuel- Miranda, Dave Brubeck, Lee Konitz, Phil Woods, Huey Lewis, Harry Connick Jr., Gloria Estefan, Questlove, and Wynton Marsalis.

Kelby MacNyr, Drums



Kelby MacNayr performs jazz, classical, and new music, and has collaborated with Anne Schaefer, pop group Elephant Island, Christine Jensen, Chuck Deardorf, lan McDougall, Chet Doxas, and many others. He is the founding Artistic Director for the Art of the Trio Series and has performed as a member of the Marc Atkinson New

Quartet, George Colligan Quartet, New York pianist Misha Piatigorsky's (Canadian) trio, the Scott White Quartet, the Storm Nilson Trio and the Marianne Trudel Quintet. MacNyr leads his own quintet, which in 2013 released the album The Measure of Light featuring Phil Dwyer, Dan Lapp, Miles Black, and Tom Wakeling.

Allison Miller, Drums



New York-based drummer/composer/teacher Allison
Miller engages her deep roots
in improvisation as a vehicle
to explore all music. Miller won
Downbeat magazine's 67th
Annual Critics Poll "Rising
Star Drummer" and Jazz
Times magazine's Critic's Poll.
Her composition, "Otis Was
a Polar Bear," is included on
NPR's list of The 200 Greatest

Songs by 21st Century Women+. She is also the first recipient of the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation's Commissioning Grant. In January 2020 Miller along with her band, Boom Tic Boom, tap dancer-Claudia Rahardjanoto, and video designer Todd Winkler premiered a new multimedia suite, In Our Veins. She teaches at the New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music (where she was recently named a Melba Liston Fellow), Stanford Jazz Workshop, Centrum, Geri Allen Jazz Camp, and is the Artistic Director of Jazz Camp West.

Jeremy Siskind, Piano



A top finisher in several national and international jazz piano competitions, Jeremy Siskind is a two-time laureate of the American Pianists Association and the winner of the Nottingham International Jazz Piano Competition. Since making his professional debut juxtaposing Debussy's Etudes with jazz standards at

Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall, Siskind has established himself as one of the nation's most innovative and virtuosic modern pianists. Siskind's multifaceted career often finds him combining musical styles and breaking aesthetic norms. As the leader of "The Housewarming Project," Siskind has not only created "a shining example of chamber jazz" (Downbeat) whose albums often land on critics' "best of the year" lists.

Gary Smulyan, Baritone Sax



Gary Smulyan attended SUNY-Potsdam and Hofstra University before he joined Woody Herman's Young Thundering Herd. He later became part of the Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra under the direction of Bob Brookmeyer. Gary worked with Mingus Epitaph band and the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra and has shared the

stage and recording studios with Freddie Hubbard and Dizzy Gillespie, Stan Getz, Chick Corea, Tito Puente, Ray Charles, B.B. King and Diana Ross. Gary is a six-time Grammy award-winner for his work with B.B. King, Joe Lovano, Dave Holland, and the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra.

Continued on pg. 10









Continued from pg. 9

Terell Stafford, Trumpet



Acclaimed New York-based trumpet player Terell Stafford has been hailed as "one of the great players of our time" by piano legend McCoy Tyner. Stafford combines a deep love of melody with his own brand of spirited and adventurous lyricism. Since the mid-90s Stafford has performed with groups such as Benny Golson's Sextet, McCoy

Tyner's Sextet, Kenny Barron Quintet, Frank Wess Quintet, and Dizzy Gillespie All-Star Alumni Band. Stafford is the Director of Jazz Studies and Chair of Instrumental Studies at Temple University, founder and bandleader of the Terell Stafford Quintet, and Managing and Artistic Director of the Jazz Orchestra of Philadelphia (JOP).

Chris Symer, Bass



Born and raised in Southern California, in 2002 bassist Chris Symer relocated to the Northwest, where he continues to make his living as a freelance musician. Equally comfortable in the classroom, stage or recording studio, Chris has played and taught clinics throughout Europe, Asia, and North and South America. He has

appeared on soundtracks for television, movies, theatre, performance art, and in settings from duos to big bands and symphony orchestras. Notable projects have included recordings with Bill Anschell (Rumbler, 2017), Johnaye Kendrick (Here, 2014), and James Knapp's Scrape, as well as tours with Anschell (2012, 2014) and Kendrick (2013).

Jay Thomas, Trumpet



Jay Thomas is a multiinstrumentalist, appearing on
more than 60 recordings that
run the gamut from hip-hop
to acid-jazz, rock, Latin, and
big band. Jay has performed
in concert with numerous
prominent musicians, including
Mel Lewis, John Clayton and
Jeff Hamilton, Maria Schneider,
Bill Holman, Bob Florence,
and Frank Wess. He has also

played at the Wolf Trap, Aspen, and duMaurier Jazz Festivals. Thomas toured Great Britain with jazz legend Slim Gaillard recording there with Slim, Jay McShann, and Buddy Tate.

Matt Wilson, Drums



Grammy nominee Matt Wilson leads the Matt Wilson Quartet, Arts and Crafts, Christmas Tree-O, and the Carl Sandburg Project. He is an integral part of bands led by Joe Lovano, John Scofield, Charlie Haden, Lee Konitz, Bob Stewart, Denny Zeitlin, Ron Miles, Marty Ehrlich, Ted Nash, Jane Ira Bloom, and Dena DeRose among others.

He has performed with many legends including Herbie Hancock, Dewey Redman, Andrew Hill, Bobby Hutcherson, Elvis Costello, Cedar Walton, Kenny Barron, John Zorn, Marshall Allen, Wynton Marsalis, Michael Brecker, Pat Metheny, Bill Frisell and Hank Jones. Most recently, he was named 2018 Musician of the Year by the JJA and also received the organization's Record of the Year honor for Honey And Salt.









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