



DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

"Jonathan Saraga is an excellent player with a lot to say and the means to say it very well."

-Gary Mortenson, International Trumpet Guild

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

SELECTED QUOTES

"His chops, lust for musical life and don't-box-me-into-a-stylistic-corner mentality make him seem like the musical offspring of trumpeters Dave Douglas and Ambrose Akinmusire."

-Dan Bilawsky, All About Jazz

"I have long been an admirer of Jonathan's musicianship, both as an excellent instrumentalist and a thoughtful, creative jazz improviser. Jonathan embodies what I feel is the best approach to modern jazz music: a thorough grounding in the rich tradition of the music coupled with a restless, searching spirit that seeks to express the music of now."

-Jimmy Greene

"I love hearing Jonathan Saraga play! He's a gifted jazz improviser with roots in the tradition, ears in the present moment, and eyes to the future."

-John Swana

"With a fresh approach to trumpet playing and improvisation, the emerging original voice of Jonathan Saraga is one that is indeed worthy of our attention."

-Todd Coolman

"Jonathan is a top-notch player. I have no doubt that he will be among the best players of his generation. He possesses the necessary ability both as a trumpeter and a musician to lead the way forward in the jazz community. When I listen to new young player, I look for a someone who has a progressive style that is anchored in the tradition of the music. Jonathan already fits that model."

-Scott Wendholt

"Jonathan Saraga has everything he needs to be a vital part of a new wave of trumpet players: Soul, intelligence, great technique and acute musical awareness. It's all here, in the unique writing and the inventive playing. Dig it!"

-Jim Rotondi

"Jonathan Saraga has been, from the first time I heard him play in 2005, a force. I never heard him take a solo, write a piece of music or, for that matter, have a conversation that wasn't pointed, serious and coming from a place of curiosity, interest and resolve. As a result, he has blossomed into an artist of real depth and the even better news is his relative youth -- who knows what he has yet to realize!"

-Pete Malinverni

"Every note, phrase, dynamic, articulation and small nuance comes from his inner being and is effortlessly presented to his listeners with in a purely creative performance."

- Bruce Chidester, The Trumpet Blog

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

LEADER DISCOGRAPHY

FIRST VISION

Label: Blue Truffle Music LLC

Recorded and Mastered at the Cutting Room Studios in New York, NY on January 8th, 2012

All Compositions by Jonathan Saraga

All artwork by Jonathan Saraga

Produced by Jonathan Saraga

Jonathan Saraga – trumpet/flugelhorn

Colin Gordon- alto saxophone

Peter Park – guitar

Jeff Dingler – bass

Gusten Rudolph – drums

"...a skillfully conceived and exquisitely realized debut that brings to mind the edgy, envelope-pushing hard bop of many a Blue Note record in the early 1960s." - ALL ABOUT JAZZ

"...a rare blend of individuality and maturity." - ALL ABOUT JAZZ

"The music, all Saraga-penned, has an uncommon freshness coming from a 24-year-old artist who is well on his way to forming his own compositional voice." - ALL ABOUT JAZZ

"First Vision isn't the stuff of amateurs on the brink of musical maturity, it's a stand-up-and-take-notice offering." - ALL ABOUT JAZZ

"First Vision shouldn't be measured as a debut; it deserves to be judged only on its bountiful merits, which include stellar trumpet work, intriguing tunes and strong group chemistry." - ALL ABOUT JAZZ

"At times, Saraga's music can exhibit a wandering, nomadic, Klezmer-influenced sound that further cements the (Dave) Douglas connection via that trumpeter's work with John Zorn's flagship Masada." - ALL ABOUT JAZZ

"An excellent debut recording as a leader for Jonathan Saraga. Highly creative playing and writing throughout the CD, all done within a strong and fresh ensemble concept." - JON GORDON

"Jonathan has always impressed me and this recording helps lay a foundation for what I know will be a great career. Check it out!" - SCOTT WENDHOLT

"Jon's new recording is a splendid collection of originals which features some fine young musicians." - CHARLES BLENZIG

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

LEADER DISCOGRAPHY

JOURNEY TO A NEW WORLD

label: Fresh Sound/New Talent

Recorded at Peter Karl Studios in New York City, NY on November 25th, 2015.

Mastered by Dave Darlington.

Jonathan Saraga - trumpet/compositions/arrangements

Remy Le Boeuf - alto saxophone

Aki Ishiguro - guitar

Chris Pattishall - piano/rhodes

Rick Rosato - bass

Kenneth Salters - drums

"Saraga is obviously very aware of the direction of jazz in his hometown of New York..." -
JAZZWISE (UK)

"There are no weak links in this band" -SEA OF TRANQUILITY

"The music pulls from its astonishing maturity and its capacity to suggest a singular experience but open and appropriate enough for the listener." -JAZZ MAGAZINE (FRANCE)

"familiar but also fresh; grounded but also hopeful." -DEBBIE BURKE

"assertive", "sharp line-up", "inventive" -JAZZWISE (UK)

"Embodying a deft compositional approach and some first-rate musicianship, Saraga's Journey is just that: an opportunity to discover and explore some exciting musical territory, with a skilled and adventurous leader as a guide." -ALL ABOUT JAZZ

"A very focused and well-conceived album by Jonathan and his crew. His compositions display great personality and poise, with everyone in the band finding ways to channel the current sounds of modern jazz, using their various influences as a platform to delve into their own musical personalities." -MIGUEL ZENON

"Saraga is a trumpeter with a singular vision that is motherloaded by a creative force but isn't a slave to it." - MIDWEST RECORD

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

VIDEO

FULL LENGTH VIDEOS



<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLp5cCR6DTsXzi9jxIjAwX44M-UL-FB4Qo>

LONGER CLIPS



<https://www.jonathansaraga.com/video>

SHORTER CLIPS



<https://www.instagram.com/jonathansaraga/>

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

AUDIO

STUDIO ALBUMS



<https://open.spotify.com/artist/36oFQeQU0U9QWqtFJ6c0aT>



<https://music.apple.com/us/artist/jonathan-saraga/1100858219>

LIVE ALBUMS



<https://jonathansaragamusic.bandcamp.com/>

SINGLES



<https://soundcloud.com/jonathansaraga>

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

PHOTOS



Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

BIOGRAPHY

Jonathan's professional music career officially began in 2002 when he was cast as an orchestral trumpeter in the Paramount film, *Changing Lanes*. That same year he would begin performing at the Jazz Standard with the Jazz Standard Youth Orchestra, which he went on to do, once a month, for the next three years. Having acquired necessary professional and artistic skills during that period, Jonathan began recording as a sideman in 2005, and has since recorded on nearly 40 studio albums (including two as a leader) and has appeared in over 250 YouTube videos. That same year, after performing at the National Arts Club, Jonathan received the Fred Mazart Music Award and began pursuing his Bachelor of Music degree at SUNY Purchase. Two years later, he competed in and won the 2007 International Trumpet Guild Jazz Solo Competition, and shortly after receiving his B.M. in 2009, Jonathan competed again, this time as one of five finalists in the Carmine Caruso International Jazz Trumpet Competition. Upon starting the pursuit of his Master of Music degree in 2010, he would travel to Kuala-Lumpur Malaysia to perform at the Anugerah Industri Muzik awards with Malaysian pop sensation, Zee Avi and once back in NYC, at the Blue Note Jazz Festival with the J.C. Hopkins Biggish Band. After receiving his M.M. in 2011, Saraga became one of two trumpeters selected from an international pool to participate in the School for Improvisational Music summer intensive program.

That next year, in 2012, Jonathan self-released his debut album, *First Vision*, at Smalls Jazz Club in NYC, which was hailed as "a skillfully conceived and exquisitely realized debut that brings to mind the edgy, envelope-pushing hard bop of many a Blue Note record in the early 1960s" by *All About Jazz*. They even hailed it as a "stand up and take notice musical offering," and spoke of its "rare blend of individuality and maturity." World-renowned trumpeter Jim Rotondi deemed Jonathan's playing on the album as "unique" and "inventive", and said that it breathes "soul, intelligence, great technique and acute musical awareness." The album received air-play throughout the east-coast on stations like 90.3 FM the Core, Weaa 88.9, BreakThru Radio's show the Jazz Hole, www.jamcityamerica.net, and Pulin4Jazz. A few years later, in 2014, it was re-released on the Blue Truffle Music record label.

In 2014, after touring the U.S. with an off-Broadway production of *Damn Yankees*, and after working as lead and solo trumpeter for Princess cruise lines, Jonathan was awarded an audition for the Artist Diploma program at Juilliard in, having been one of only two trumpeters even considered. A year later, in 2015, he was one of only five trumpeters invited to participate in the Banff Summer Intensive Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music in Alberta, Canada, and in 2016, received an ASCAP Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Award for his composition, "Uprising", featured on his second album, *Journey to a New World* (Fresh Sound Records/2017). Jonathan's sophomore release which has been called "inventive" and "assertive" by *JazzWise*, (U.K.) has also been said to feature "astonishing maturity" (*Jazz Magazine*, France), "a deft compositional approach and some first-rate musicianship" (*All About Jazz*, U.S.). The Saraga-penned original compositions also received a total of 4 semi-finalist nominations and 1 Finalist/Honorable Mention nomination in the 2016 and 2017 International Songwriting Competitions, the latter award being received by only 1% of the original 16,000+ entries from 140 countries. The album has aired on radio stations around the world, and has been featured on Kansas Public Radio's Top 10 Jazz CD list 2 weeks in a row, amongst albums by Esperanza Spaulding, Dr. Lonnie Smith, and Christian McBride. The release also received three 4-star reviews in *JazzWise* (U.K) and *All About Jazz* (U.S.) and has earned him multiple interviews and features with jazz authors/scholars, Ruth Fischer and Debbie Burke.

Before completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree, Saraga headlined the first Caribbean International Jazz Festival in Les Cayes, Haiti in 2018 performing in front of thousands, and was selected as an Artist in Residence for the 2019 Early Fall Musicians in Residence program at the Banff Center. That same year, the newly hooded, Dr. Saraga made it to the final round of the New Jazz Works grant competition presented by Chamber Music America, and a year later was one of three trumpeters to make it to the final round of auditions for the GRAMMY-winning Afro- Latin Jazz Orchestra's 4th Trumpet Chair, as well as one of sixteen to receive a commission from the International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers. Jonathan was also selected to present at the International Society for Improvised Music conference at Melbourne Conservatorium of Music in Melbourne, Australia as well as at the Association for Popular Music Education conference at Edinburgh Napier University in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2020.

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

BIOGRAPHY

Between '20 and '21, Saraga received two Downbeat Student Music Awards—one in the Outstanding Performance Undergraduate Category for Latin Group, and the other in the Graduate College Outstanding Arrangements Category for Small Ensemble. He also received grants from United States Artists, the University of Colorado Boulder Music Advisory Board, the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, the Actors Fund/Local 802 Musicians Union, the Jazz Foundation of America, the Afro-Latin Jazz Alliance, and the Recording Academy/MusiCares, totaling nearly \$10,000. Additional 2021 accomplishments include selected participation in the BMI Jazz Composers Workshop, acceptance into Chashama's chaNorth Artist in Residence program, finalist status in the Haleakala National Park Artist in Residence program and waitlist status for the Millay Colony for the Arts' Core Residency program. Jonathan also competed as one of two finalists in the U.S. Air Force Academy Band jazz/commercial trumpet vacancy auditions, and in the U.S. Navy Band Commodores jazz trumpet vacancy auditions held in Washington DC, Washington. In 2023, he earned finalist status in the Amsonia & Hermes Music International Composition Contest.

In New York City, where Saraga resides, he performs and records as a featured musician with Festival of New Trumpet Music, having participated in two world premieres, and has played in ensembles led by highly acclaimed and/or Grammy-nominated/winning artists & organizations such as Steve Coleman, Henry Cole, Maria Schneider, The Mingus Big Band, Remy Le Boeuf, Jason Marshall, Jihye Lee, Migiwa Miyajima, Darcy James Argue, the Birdland Big Band, Terraza 7 Big Band, Orrin Evans, Manuel Valera, Josh Evans, Jimmy Greene, Tyshawn Sorey, Eric Bergen and the Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra. He has performed as a sideman at Carnegie Hall, Joe's Pub, Symphony Space, the Jazz Gallery, the Barclay's Center, Smoke, Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, and Rockefeller Center to name only a few prominent NYC venues, and as a leader, Jonathan has been performing his original music with his own groups all over NYC at places like iBeam, Seeds, Cornelia St. Café, The Bar Next Door, Jazz at the Kitano, Shapeshifter Lab and Smalls Jazz Club.

Besides professing a passion and skillset for music within the 'jazz' idiom, Jonathan's usage of sound draws from and contributes to many other forms of art. He has composed and arranged music for lyricists, and has provided musical accompaniment for dance classes, workshops, and performances presented by the Martha Graham Dance Academy and the Jeffrey Ballet School. He has even co-choreographed plays and has played for Marc Jacobs fashion runway shows. Jonathan's musicianship also reaches the health and wellness crowd, as he has served as a regular performer at the New Life Expo, and as a musical aid for art exhibitions, including a Syrian-post war realist art exhibition presented by ChaShaMa, Yoga classes at Jivamukti, meditation classes for WeWork and poetry readings at the Firehouse Space, reaching audiences at St. Peter's Church at the Citicorp Center, The Tibet House, Triskelion Arts the Firehouse Space, the Jewish Community Center, the New York Insight Meditation Center, and the NYU Skirball Theater. Jonathan also serves as an in-demand commercial trumpeter with many acclaimed entertainment corporations such as Element Music, 45 Riots, Starrock Productions, Works Entertainment, Aragon Artists, Elán Artists and Chevy Chevis Entertainment, to name a few.

Jonathan has been actively involved in the field of music-education since 2009, and has served as private instructor, ensemble coach and lecturer within public school, private school, charter school, and university environments. He has been an employee of many New York-based music-education programs such as the Afro-Latin Jazz Academy, The Gramercy Brass Orchestra of New York, New York Ensemble Classes, the Lyceum Kennedy International School, Jubilee Enrichment Programs, Jazz Empowers and the New York Jazz Academy. He also worked for 6 college semesters as a Graduate Part-Time Instructor for the University of Colorado Boulder, where he taught jazz combo and jazz orchestra as well as a 100+ student Jazz History lecture course. He has also been teaching privately for over a decade and has accumulated nearly 40 5-star Yelp/Google reviews.

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

AWARDS/ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2023: Finalist in the Amsonia & Hermes Music International Composition Contest
- 2022: Recording Academy Member Class of 2022 – Selected Member
- 2021: BMI Jazz Composers Workshop - Selected Participant
- 2021: U.S. Air Force Academy Band jazz/commercial trumpet vacancy auditions - Finalist (1 of 2 candidates)
- 2021: Unsigned Only Music Competition – Semi-Finalist
- 2021: U.S. Navy Band Commodores jazz trumpet vacancy (Washington DC, Washington) – Finalist (1 of 2)
- 2021: Millay Colony for the Arts Core Residency - Waitlist
- 2021: Haleakala National Park Artist in Residence program (Maui, Hawaii) – Finalist
- 2021: Downbeat Student Music Award, Graduate College Outstanding Arrangements, Small Ensemble – Winner/Recipient
- 2020: GRAMMY-winning Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra's 4th trumpet chair auditions – Finalist (1 of 3)
- 2020: BMI Jazz Composers Workshop - Selected Participant
- 2020: Downbeat Student Music Award, Outstanding Performance, Latin Group, Undergraduate Category – Recipient
- 2020: Association for Popular Music Education conference (Edinburgh Napier University-Edinburgh, Scotland) – Selected Presenter
- 2020: International Society for Improvised Music conference (Melbourne Conservatorium of Music-Melbourne, Australia) – Selected Presenter
- 2019: Chamber Music America's New Jazz Works grant competition – Finalist
- 2017: International Songwriting Competition – Winner/Honorable Mention/Finalist
- 2017: International Songwriting Competition – Semi-Finalist
- 2016: ASCAP Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Award – Winner/Recipient
- 2016: International Songwriting Competition – Semi-Finalist
- 2009: Carmine Caruso International Jazz Trumpet Solo Competition – Finalist (1 of 5)
- 2007: International Trumpet Guild Jazz Trumpet Solo Competition – Winner

GRANTS/COMMISSIONS

- 2020: United States Artists
- 2020: International Society of Arrangers and Composers
- 2020: University of Colorado Boulder, Music Advisory Board
- 2020: Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation
- 2020: The Actors Fund/Local 802 Musicians Union
- 2020: The Jazz Foundation of America
- 2020: The Afro-Latin Jazz Alliance
- 2020: The Recording Academy/MusiCares

RESIDENCIES

- Chashama chaNorth Summer Residency Program, 2021, 3 weeks
- Banff Early Fall Musicians in Residence program, 2019, 2 weeks
- Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music, 2015, 3 weeks
- School for Improvisational Music Summer Intensive Program, 2011, 2 weeks

RECORDINGS AS A LEADER

- “Journey to a New World”-Fresh Sound Records LLC (2017)
- “First Vision”-Blue Truffle Music LLC (2013)

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

RECORDINGS AS A SIDEMAN

2024: HyeSong Hong Big Band *TBA*, 2024: Julia Keefe *The Mildred Bailey Project*, 2024: Sue Jin *Last Sunset*, 2023: Azimuth A.D. *Mereyside*, 2023: Dana Athens *Crush*, 2023: Erica Seguin/Shannon Baker Jazz Orchestra *The New Day Bends Light*, Tony Max, *Love Yourself* (2022), Real Stormin' Norman *Euphoria* (2021), terrance peng *Bears May Try to Share Your Lunch* (2021), Consoul Lonestar (2021), Craig Shepard *Trumpet City* (2021), Alex Heffron *Looking Out* (2021), Gary Fogel LagTet *It is What it Is* (2019), Noah Barker *Business Actual* (2017), Eric Block *Spanish Island* (2016), Eco-Music Big Band *Rebel Spirits* (2016), The Oatmeal Jazz Combo *Instant Oats* (2016), Eco-Music Big Band *Colors of Resistance* (2016), Afro Peruvian New Trends Orquestra *Uniting Beats (Ritmos Que Unen)* (2016), Ece Moisson *Gelmissin* (2015), Wynn Walent *With Friends from Here and There* (2014), Oatmeal Jazz Combo *Steel Cut Oats* (2013), Math of Trees *The Gears Below* (2012), Western Sky Music *Stations* (2012), Do La Mizik *New York Time* (2012), System Band *Se Nou'k Kon'n Fe'l* (2012), Mr. Breakdown *Shake Daddy Jupiter* (2011), Shedly Abraham *7th Step* (2011), The New York Korean Jazz Orchestra *The First Step* (2012), Helix Kweentet *Helix* (2010), Rafrechi *Jwet La Bel Nan Min'w* (2010), Charlie Phillips *Charlie Phillips* (2009), Captain Coconut *Everybody's Business* (2009), International Trumpet Guild *The Roads They've Taken: Winners of the ITG Conference Student Jazz Improvisation Competition, 1979-2008* (2008); Doug Ratner *Surviving the City* (2006)

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE VENUES AS LEADER

St. Peter's Church (NYC) Caribbean International Jazz Festival (Les Cayes, Haiti)
Cornelia St. Café (NYC), The Douglas St. Music Collective (NYC), Seeds (NYC), The Bar Next Door (NYC), The Shapeshifter Lab (NYC), iBeam (NYC), Festival of New Trumpet Music (NYC), Dazzle (CO), Smalls Jazz Club (NYC), Jazz at the Kitano (NYC), Soapbox Gallery (NYC)

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE VENUES AS SIDEMAN

The Barclays Center (NYC), St. Peter's Church (NYC), Le Poisson Rouge (NYC), The Metropolitan Museum of Art (NYC), Carnegie Hall (NYC), National Arts Club (NYC), Symphony Space (NYC), NYU Skirball Theater (NYC), The Stone (NYC), The Cutting Room (NYC), Alice Tully Hall (NYC), The Jazz Gallery (NYC), Roulette (NYC), Joe's Pub (NYC), Rose Hall (NYC), Putra Indoor Stadium (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), The Blue Note (NYC), The Jazz Standard (NYC), Rockefeller Center (NYC), Birdland (NYC), Jazz at the Kitano (NYC), Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola (NYC), Fat Cat (NYC), Zinc Bar (NYC), The Hotel New Yorker (NYC), the Apollo Theater (NYC), Smalls Jazz Club (NYC), Smoke Jazz Club (NYC), The Painted Bride (MA), Bicentennial Park (Miami, FL), St. Peter's Church (NYC), The Performing Arts Center (Purchase, NY), Ornithology (NYC), The Douglas St. Music Collective (NYC), Spirits (Miami, FL), Sullivan Hall (NYC), the Apollo Theater (NYC), Firehouse Space (NYC), Chris' Jazz Club (PA)

JAZZ FESTIVALS

Lake George Jazz Festival (NY), Caribbean International Jazz Festival (Haiti), The Blue Note Jazz Festival (NY), Cadence Jazz Festival (NY), Peekskill Jazz Festival (NY), Rochester Jazz Festival (NY), Albany Jazz Festival (NY), Anugerah Industri Muzik Awards (Malaysia), Kompa Music Festival (FL/Paris), Festival of New Trumpet Music (NY)

THEATRE/OFF-BROADWAY

Theaterly.com – recording session work, Drowsy Chaperone - Riverdale Rising Stars, Anything Goes - AfterWork Theatre, The Wild Party - New Studio on Broadway, Sweet Charity - New Harlem Arts Theater, Damn Yankees - Way-Off Broadway Productions (National Tour), Guys and Dolls - LaGuardia High School production, LaGuardia High School

ENTERTAINMENT COMPANIES

Works Entertainment, Starrock Productions, Aragon Artists, Chevy Chevis Entertainment, Element Music, 45 Riots, Elán Artists, The Eleven Band

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Doctor of Musical Arts
www.jonathansaraga.com | jonathan@jonathansaraga.com | (347) 574-2003

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

NOTABLE ARTISTIC HIGHLIGHTS

- 2024: Trumpeter w/ Dan Pugash Big Band – Album Release – Birdland Jazz Club
- 2022-Present: Trumpeter w/ BMI Jazz Orchestra – BMI Jazz Composers Workshop's Annual Summer Showcase – Dizzy's Club
Coca-Cola, Symphony Space
- 2023: Trumpeter w/ Bijan Mortazari & Mazyar Fallahi — Tilles Performing Arts Center
- 2023: Trumpeter w/ Gorilla Biscuits — White Eagle Hall
- 2023: Trumpeter w/ GRAMMY-winning Emilio Sola Big Band — Lake George Jazz Festival
- 2022-Present: Trumpeter w/ HyeSong Hong Big Band — Birdland, The Jazz Loft
- 2023: Trumpeter w/ Ben Markley Big Band feat. Ari Hoenig — Birdland Jazz Club
- 2019-Present: Trumpeter w/ Birdland Big Band – Birdland
- 2019-Present: Trumpeter w/ Jihye Lee Jazz Orchestra– Shapeshifter Lab, Birdland, The Jazz Gallery, The Times Center
- 2019-22: Trumpeter w/ Manuel Valera Big Band – The Django, Terraza 7
- 2019-Present: Trumpeter w/ GRAMMY-nominated Remy Le Boeuf's Assembly of Shadows Orchestra – The Jazz Gallery,
Roulette
- 2022: Work cited in Sammy Stein's book, The Wonder of Jazz (Independent Publishing Network)
- 2022-23: Trumpeter w/ Brass Against – Southern Tour Dates, Le Poisson Rouge
- 2022: Featured Performer/Composer for Composers Now Festival Virtual Opening Event
- 2021: Trumpeter w/ Steven Feifke Big Band — The Django
- 2021-22: Trumpeter w/ GRAMMY-nominated Terraza Big Band – Terraza 7
- 2019-20: Trumpeter w/ Jason Marshall Big Band - Minton's Playhouse
- 2019: Trumpeter w/ GRAMMY-winning Maria Schneider Jazz Orchestra - The Jazz Standard
- 2019: Trumpeter w/ GRAMMY-winning Mingus Big Band - The Jazz Standard
- 2019: Trumpeter w/ Migiwa Miyajima Jazz Orchestra– Shapeshifter Lab
- 2018-20: Trumpeter w/ GRAMMY-nominated Darcy James Argue's Secret Society
- 2018: Headlining artist for the 1st ever Caribbean International Jazz Festival – Gelee Beach (Les Cayes, Haiti)
- 2017: Trumpeter w/ MacArthur Fellow Tyshawn Sorey Group - The Met Brewer, The Stone
- 2017: Release of 2nd album as leader, Journey to a New World (Fresh Sound New Talent)
- 2016: Soloist in world premiere of GRAMMY-nominated Jimmy Greene Big Band - Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola
- 2015: Trumpeter w/ the Valery Ponomarev Big Band - Zinc Bar
- 2015: Lead Trumpeter w/ Eco-Music Big Band - Carnegie Hall
- 2015: Trumpeter w/ Eric Bergen - Birdland
- 2015: Trumpeter w/ Djakout Mizik – The Barclay's Center
- 2015: Trumpeter w/ Henry Cole group
- 2015: Trumpeter w/ Steve Coleman large ensemble
- 2014: Trumpeter w/ Orrin Evans' Captain Black Big Band - Smoke
- 2014: Callback for the Juilliard Artist Diploma program auditions
- 2014: Trumpeter in world premiere of 71 trumpet piece “Trumpet City” by Craig Sheppard
- 2014: Lead Trumpeter in U.S. National off-Broadway production of Damn Yankees (North America)
- 2013: Trumpeter w/ the GRAMMY-winning Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra - Birdland
- 2013: Trumpeter on Island Princess for Princess Cruises (Panama Canal)
- 2013: Festival of New Trumpet Music world premiere of Henry Brant's “Flight Over a Global Map” – ‘Roulette
- 2012: Release of debut album as a leader First Vision (Blue Truffle Music LLC)
- 2011: Trumpeter at the Blue Note Jazz Festival w/ J.C. Hopkins Biggish Band – The Highline Ballroom
- 2010: Trumpeter with Zee Ave at the Anugerah Industri Muzik (AIM) awards - Putra World Tower (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

DR. JONATHAN SARAGA



“Jonathan is a real improviser and has the technique to express his ideas fluently and with heart.”

- Scott Lee