

# JONATHAN SARAGA

Trumpeter | Flugelhornist | Composer | Arranger | Educator | Producer | Transcriber | Copyist  
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## **PUBLICLY PRESENTED COMPOSED WORK**

### **ALBUMS**

-*Journey to a New World*, 2017 (75 minutes) 8-track album for the Fresh Sound Records label, featuring 5 original compositions and 3 original arrangements of popular/standard compositions, scored for jazz sextet (trumpet, alto saxophone, guitar, piano/Rhodes, upright bass, drums). Various compositions from the album have received the following awards: 2016 Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Award, 2016 + 2017 Semi-Finalist & 2017 Finalist/Honorable Mention in the International Songwriting Competition. The music has been performed on numerous occasions between 2017 and 2020 at the following venues: Cornelia St. Café (NYC), University of the Streets (NYC), Seeds (NYC), Shapeshifter Lab (NYC), Dazzle (CO), Smalls Jazz Club (NYC).

-*First Vision*, 2015 (44 minutes) 6-track album for Blue Truffle Music, LLC, featuring 6 original compositions scored for jazz quintet (trumpet, alto saxophone, guitar, upright bass, drums). The music has been performed on numerous occasions between 2012 and 2020 at the following venues: The Douglas St. Music Collective (NYC), The Bar Next Door (NYC), Sycamore (NYC), Pianos (NYC), The Shapeshifter Lab (NYC), iBeam (NYC), Smalls Jazz Club (NYC).

### **SHORTER WORKS/INDIVIDUAL TRACKS**

-“New Beginnings: Part 1 (Destinations)”, 2021 (10 minutes) modern jazz orchestra composition scored for standard 17-piece big band; part 1 of the New Beginnings suite for jazz orchestra, was one of sixteen pieces commissioned by the International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers for winter of 2020.

-“Enchantment”, 2015 (10 minutes) jazz quintet/sextet piece. The music has been performed on numerous occasions between 2015 and 2020 at the following venues: Smalls Jazz Club (NYC), The Dispensary Lounge (NV). I plan on recording this as part of one of my next small group albums.

-“Search for Truth”, 2014 (10 minutes) jazz quintet/sextet piece. The music has been performed on numerous occasions between 2015 and 2020 at the following venues: Smalls Jazz Club (NYC), The Dispensary Lounge (NV). I plan on recording this as part of one of my next small group albums.

-“One for Graham Hancock”, 2014 (7 minutes) modern jazz orchestra composition scored for standard 17-piece big band is an original composition, written in tribute to the egyptologist, author, journalist, historian, and researcher.

-“The Reiki Practitioner”, 2009 (13 minutes) modern jazz orchestra composition scored for standard 17-piece big band, originally performed by the U.S. Army Blues at the 2009 Carmine Caruso International Jazz Trumpet Competition (University of South Carolina), and since has been adapted and re-arranged for multiple performances and recording/video sessions, between 2009 and 2019; they include: The Tea Lounge (NYC), Trumpets Jazz Club (NJ), the Iridium (NYC), the University of Colorado, Boulder (CO), Mighty Fine Studios (CO).

## **WORK IN DEVELOPMENT**

-Jazz Orchestra Composition: I am currently writing a new piece for jazz orchestra instrumentation, as part 2 of the 2020 ISJAC Covid-19 Commission Grant I received from the International Society for Jazz Arrangers and Composers.

-Large Ensemble Album 1: I am looking forward to completing and professionally recording my first large-ensemble album/video using my jazz-chamber suite, *Dream World*. Hoping for grant money/commission opportunity in order to make this happen.

-Large Ensemble Album 2: It is my goal to create an orchestra with solo trumpet album, to feature myself and my original arrangements of some the most inspiring film/movie/musical music in my life thus far,

including the following songs: When You Believe (The Prince of Egypt), Song of Purple Summer (Spring Awakening) The Passing of the Elves (Lord of the Rings), If I Loved You (Carousel), I See the Light (Tangled), Can you Feel the Love Tonight (The Lion King), Back in Time (Back to the Future), Speak Softly Love (The Godfather), Edge of Night (Lord of the Rings), Gravity (Free Solo), Anyone who Knows What Love is Will Understand (Black Mirror)

-Small Group Album 1: I have a collection of 3 unrecorded small group modern-jazz compositions that have been performed on numerous occasions, and I am in the process of writing and arranging more to accommodate a new record in the modern/contemporary jazz genre.

-Small Group Album 2: I have been studying ancient spiritual texts for some time now, and have gathered a collection of 12 song titles based on teachings/stories in the Bhagavad-Gita. It is my goal to create a small group album called *Advaita Vedanta* (“not duality”), which is a system of Hindu spiritual realization, based on these titles.

-Small Group Album 3: It is my goal to create a jazz sextet album, to feature myself and my original arrangements of some of my favorite popular singer-songwriter songs including the following songs: Piano Man (Billy Joel), Blow me Away (Breaking Benjamin), He’s My Son (Mark Shultz), Earth Angel (Waters/Berry), How Deep is Your Love (Bee Gees) and others.

## **OTHER ARTISTIC WORK**

### **NOTABLE ARTISTIC HIGHLIGHTS** *(all based in New York, NY unless otherwise noted)*

2021: Trumpeter w/ GRAMMY-nominated Terraza Big Band – Terraza 7

2019-20: Trumpeter w/ GRAMMY-nominated Remy Le Boeuf’s *Assembly of Shadows Orchestra* – The Jazz Gallery, Roulette

2019-20: Trumpeter w/ Jihye Lee Jazz Orchestra– Shapeshifter Lab, Birdland

2019-20: Trumpeter w/ Manuel Valera Big Band - Django, 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/ Birdland Big Band – Birdland

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)

### **RECORDINGS AS A SIDEMAN**

2021: 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*  
2020: Gary Fogel Lagtet *In the Nick of Time*  
2019: Gary Fogel LagTet *It is What it Is*  
2017: Noah Barker *Business Actual*  
2016: 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)*  
2015: Ece Moisson *Gelmissin*  
2014: Wynn Walent *With Friends from Here and There*  
2013: Oatmeal Jazz Combo *Steel Cut Oats*  
2012: 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*  
2011: Mr. Breakdown *Shake Daddy Jupiter*  
2011: Shedly Abraham *7th Step*  
2012: The New York Korean Jazz Orchestra *The First Step*  
2010: Avishai Darash *Helix Kiveentet*  
2010: Rafrechi *Jwet La Bel Nan Min'w*  
2009: Charlie Phillips *Charlie Phillips*  
2009: Captain Coconut *Everybody's Business*  
2008: International Trumpet Guild *The Roads They've Taken: Winners of the ITG Conference Student Jazz Improvisation Competition, 1979-2008*  
2006: Doug Ratner *Surviving the City*

### **NOTABLE PERFORMANCE VENUES AS LEADER** (all venues in New York, NY unless otherwise noted)

Caribbean International Jazz Festival (Les Cayes, Haiti)  
Cornelia St. Café  
The Douglas St. Music Collective  
Seeds  
The Bar Next Door  
The Shapeshifter Lab  
iBeam  
Festival of New Trumpet Music  
Smalls Jazz Club  
Jazz at the Kitano  
Culture Lab LIC  
Dazzle Jazz Club (CO)  
Nocturne (CO)

### **NOTABLE PERFORMANCE VENUES AS SIDEMAN** (all venues in New York, NY unless otherwise noted)

The Barclays Center

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

## **REVIEWS**

4/4 Stars *Recommended* – Jazzwise UK (Tony Hall), *Journey to a New World*, 2017  
4/5 Stars – All About Jazz (Troy Dostert), *Journey to a New World*, 2017  
4/5 Stars – Jazz Journal (Brian Morton), *Journey to a New World*, 2017  
3.5/4 Stars - Audiophile Audition (Fritz Balwit) - *Journey to a New World*, 2017  
4/4 Stars – Sea of Tranquility (Jon Neudorf), *Journey to a New World*, 2017  
4/5 Stars – All About Jazz (Dan Bilawsky), *First Vision*, 2012  
4/5 Stars – All About Jazz (Dan McClenaghan), *First Vision*, 2012  
4/5 Stars – All About Jazz (Hrayr Attarian), *First Vision*, 2012

## **INTERVIEWS**

Friday Night Jazz (w/ Ray Vega) - Vermont Public Radio  
In Frequency (w/ Ethan Helm) podcast  
Debbie Burke Jazz Author (two separate blog interviews)  
The Trumpet Blog (w/ Bruce Chidester)  
KUVU-Denver, CO (w/ Arturo Gomez/Eric Troe)

The Jazz Hole (w/ Linus Wyrsh)  
Hawai`I Public Radio (w/ Charles Husson)  
Public Radio International (w/ Jeff Hanley)  
Pulin 4 Jazz (w/ Rich Pulin)  
Sunday Night Jazz (w/ Ron Jackson)

## **FEATURES**

Composers Now (featured piece on their “Sound/Visions” YouTube playlist)  
We Are The Art  
Talent Jungle  
Fluke Productions, London

## **THEATRE** *(as a lead trumpeter; all performances took place in New York, NY unless otherwise noted)*

2016: Drowsy Chaperone - Riverdale Rising Stars  
2015: Anything Goes - AfterWork Theatre  
2014: The Wild Party - New Studio on Broadway  
2012: Sweet Charity - New Harlem Arts Theater  
2012: Damn Yankees - Way-Off Broadway Productions (National Tour)  
2011: Guys and Dolls - LaGuardia High School production, LaGuardia High School

## **AWARDS/ACHIEVEMENTS**

- U.S. Air Force Academy Band jazz/commercial trumpet vacancy auditions - Finalist (1 of 2 candidates), 2021
- Unsigned Only Music Competition Semi-Finalist, “Destinations” selected work (12% of 10,000 entries), 2021
- U.S. Navy Band Commodores jazz trumpet vacancy auditions (Washington DC, Washington) - Finalist (1 of 2 candidates), 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, 2021
- 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, 2020
- GRAMMY-winning Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra 4<sup>th</sup> trumpet chair auditions - Finalist (1 of 3 candidates), 2020
- Chamber Music America’s New Jazz Works Grant Competition - Finalist, 2020
- BMI Jazz Composers Workshop, Selected Participant, 2020
- Downbeat Student Music Award, Outstanding Performance, Latin Group, Undergraduate Category, 2020
- International Songwriting Competition, Winner/Honorable Mention/Finalist, “The Great Journey” selected work, 2017
- International Songwriting Competition, Semi-Finalist, “New World”, “Uprising”, “The Great Journey” selected works, 2017
- Full Scholarship/Paid Assistantship & Instructorship for Doctor of Musical Arts Degree, University of Colorado, Boulder, approx. \$33,000 in scholarship + \$47,000 in salary, 2016-19
- ASCAP Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Award, Recipient, *Uprising* selected work, 2016
- International Songwriting Competition, Semi-Finalist, “Uprising” selected work, 2016
- Carmine Caruso International Jazz Trumpet Solo Competition, Finalist (1 of 5), 2009
- International Trumpet Guild Jazz Trumpet Solo Competition, Finalist, 2007, \$1000

## **GRANTS/COMMISSIONS**

United States Artists, \$5000  
International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers, 2020, \$500  
University of Colorado Boulder, Music Advisory Board, 2020, \$600  
Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, 2020, \$1000  
The Actors Fund/Local 802 Musicians Union, 2020, \$500  
The Jazz Foundation of America, 2020, \$200  
The Afro-Latin Jazz Alliance, 2020, \$200  
The Recording Academy/MusiCares, 2020, \$1000

## **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

## **EDUCATION**

### **DEGREES**

University of Colorado, Boulder, Doctor of Music Arts degree in Jazz Studies/Trumpet Performance, 2016-2019  
SUNY Purchase, Master of Music degree in Jazz Studies/Trumpet Performance, 2010-2011  
SUNY Purchase, Bachelor of Music degree in Jazz Studies/Trumpet Performance, 2005-2009

### **ADDITIONAL EDUCATION**

Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music - The Banff Center, Alberta CA, 2015  
School for Improvisational Music Selective Summer Intensive Program, New York, NY, 2011  
Master of Music Degree - Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 2010  
Vermont Jazz Center Summer Jazz Camp, Burlington, VT, 2007  
Queens College Summer Jazz Program – Queens College, New York, NY, 2006

### **TEACHERS**

Brad Goode, Jon Faddis, Laurie Frink, Ray Vega, Peter Evans, Scott Wendholt, Jim Rotondi, Jeremy Pelt, Tony Kadleck, Mike Rodriguez, Joe Magnarelli, Wynton Marsalis, Allen Vizzutti, Walter White, Bill Dunn, John Lambert, Conrad Herwig, Ralph Bowen, Pete Malinverni, Charles Blenzig, Jimmy Greene, Todd Coolman, Steve Wilson, Jon Gordon, Hal Galper

## **TEACHING & SCHOLASTIC EMPLOYMENT**

2019-2020: Music Teacher – Jazz Empowers, New York, NY  
2017-present: Music Teacher - New York Jazz Academy, New York, NY  
2016-2019: Graduate Part-Time Instructor/Teaching Assistant, University of Colorado, Boulder  
2016-present: Music Teacher - New York Ensemble Classes  
2013-present: Music Teacher - Afro-Latin Jazz Academy of Music, New York, NY  
2010-present: Music Teacher - Gramercy Brass Orchestra of New York, New York, NY  
2017: Piano, Singing and Drama Teacher-Jubilee Summer Enrichment Program, New York NY  
2015: Piano, Trumpet, General Music Teacher - Lyceum Kennedy International School, New York, NY  
2010-2011: Departmental Assistant - SUNY Purchase, New York, NY  
2009-2010: Departmental Assistant - Mason-Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Jersey

## **ADDITIONAL RELEVANT CATEGORIES**

### **SELECTED PRESS QUOTES**

## JOURNEY TO A NEW WORLD

"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, Jazz Author

"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

## FIRST VISION

"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

## MISC.

"Jonathan is a real improviser and has the technique to express his ideas fluently and with heart." -Scott Lee

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

"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

"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

## RESEARCH/WRITTEN WORKS

### LISTENING/TRANSCRIPTION

-*A Brief Reflection on Process and Study of Content in Extended Solo Transcription*—a broad study on John Coltrane’s nearly 27-minute extended solo on “One Down One Up” from the album *One Down One Up live at the Half Note*. (Transcription 48 pages, Paper 14 pages, Powerpoint)

-*Kurt Rosenwinkel’s “Cubism” & It’s Post-Bop Ascetic*—an analytic study on an original composition by the guitarist, and the presence of compositional devices and improvisational vehicles which often appear in post-bop compositions of the 1960’s. (17 pages, 9 sources, Powerpoint)

-*A Selective Analysis of Prelude no. 3 from Book 1 of J.S. Bach’s Well Tempered Clavier and Miguel Zenon’s “JSB”*—explores the theory and rhetoric behind select sonic occurrences within Johann Sebastian Bach’s Prelude No. 3 in C# Major from his Well-Tempered Clavier Book 1, and how MacArthur Fellow and saxophonist, Miguel Zenon adapted and re-imagined it for modern-day jazz quartet instrumentation. (10 pages, 4 sources, Powerpoint)

-Detailed analysis of Clifford Brown’s extended 12-minute solo on “Hot House” from the album *Live at the Beehive*, with emphasis on Thematic Development and the Variety of Techniques Used to Achieve It, Rhythmic Tendencies and Contrasts, Phrasing Structure and Pacing, Melodic Construction and Intervallic Shapes, Harmonic Approach, and Trumpet-Specific Instrumental Devices (9 Pages)

-Over 20 transcribed full jazz solos by artists such as Freddie Hubbard, Clifford Brown, Donald Byrd, Booker Little, Wayne Shorter, Chet Baker, Kenny Dorham, Joe Henderson, Blue Mitchell, Lee Morgan, Miles Davis, Wallace Roney, Eric Alexander, Wynton Marsalis, Jim Snidero, and John Coltrane

### MUSICOLOGICAL/ETHNOMUSICOLOGICAL

-3 semesters of the teaching of a 100-person (average) History of Jazz lecture class at the University of Colorado, Boulder. (40 50-minute lectures/Powerpoints, 12 exams)

-*All Paths Lead To God: A Brief Account Of Spiritual And Religious Faith In The Lives Of Yusef Lateef, Sonny Rollins & John Coltrane* (Doctoral Thesis: 51 pages, 77 sources). Has received readership from 25 countries and 35 downloads including for educational use by Colombia University and Danmarks Tekniske Universitet, and for commercial use by New England Conservatory of Music and Om Telecom.

-Closed-book biographical essay on the following iconic trumpet players: Louie Armstrong, Bix Beiderbecke, Cat Anderson, Dizzy Gillespie, Clark Terry, Thad Jones, Fats Navarro, Kenny Dorham, Miles Davis, Art Farmer, Chet Baker, Clifford Brown, Blue Mitchell, Bill Chase, Freddy Hubbard, Lee Morgan, Woody Shaw, Arturo Sandoval, Jon Faddis, James Morrison, and Roy Hargrove (23 pages)

-Report on pre-1750 Western Music History including detailed timeline, the different “periods” or “ages” and their musical attributes, composers, and developments in art, society, and/or religion. (20 pages)

-*The Divide Continuing the Conversation*—examines the existence of Jazz and its relationship with black-American music, from the perspective of current-day black artists. (18 pages, 22 sources, Powerpoint).

-*A Short Religious Study of John Coltrane’s Meditations: “The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost”*—explores the first movement of John Coltrane’s *Meditations* suite for the sole purpose of revealing the ways in which the musical content directly relates to specific religious and otherwise spiritual ideas that are seemingly represented by the music. (17 pages, 21 sources)

-*Bridging the Gap Between Literature and Music: How John Adams Succeeded in Sonically Interpreting and Realizing a Poem of Profound Nature*—explores a composition by Pulitzer Prize and 3-time Grammy Award recipient, composer and conductor, John Adams: “Negative Love” from his 1981 work, *Harmonium*, and how it reflects a poem by 17th century poet, John Donne. (13 pages, 20 sources)

-Closed-book essay on the field of ethnomusicology, including discussion of broad topics of interest among current scholars in the field and why they are of interest, and brief summaries of published contributions who did their work between 1960 and 2010. (6 pages)

### PEDAGOGICAL

-Creation of an outline for a two-year (four semester) jazz improvisation course for college jazz majors to be implemented during the freshman and sophomore years. Included is a general week-by-week (15 weeks



each semester) schedule of topics to be covered and include specifics such as playing/written tests, transcription projects, listening assignments, specific tunes studied and any other relevant information (including any textbooks and supplemental materials). (10 pages)

-3 semesters of the teaching of a 100-person (average) History of Jazz lecture class at the University of Colorado, Boulder. (40 50-minute lectures/Powerpoints, 12 exams). Included extensive study and comprehension of the history of jazz and American music.

-Intense observation, reflection and application of teaching methods and pedagogical approaches by world-class educators such as: Brad Goode, Jon Faddis, Laurie Frink, Peter Evans, Jim Rotondi, Wynton Marsalis, Allen Vizzutti, Conrad Herwig, Ralph Bowen, Pete Malinverni, Charles Blenzig, Jimmy Greene, Todd Coolman, Steve Wilson, Jon Gordon, Hal Galper, and Jeff Coffin

## EXTRACURRICULAR /OTHER

-As part of my Doctor of Musical Arts degree work, I read Dr. Ed Sarath's 400-page book, *Improvisation, Creativity and Consciousness: Jazz as an Integral Template for Music, Education, and Society*, and wrote an 11-page, 8 source paper on it. As a related side note, I was recently invited to present at the 2020 International Society for Improvised Music conference, being held at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music in Melbourne, Australia. Little did I know that Dr. Sarath was the president of that organization.

-My research into psychological conditionings of the human mind have informed several of my educational writings—works such as *Teaching Philosophy*, *Teaching a College Freshman*, *Teaching Special Needs Students*, *Developing and Implementing a Teaching Philosophy*, and *The Art of Humility, and its Role in the Life of an Artist* (Total pages 27, 11 Sources)

-*Spirituality: A Jazz Musicians Guide*—The topic of my thesis paper (mentioned earlier) was actually taken from this larger work that is still in progress. It synthesizes a multitude of spiritual philosophies, texts, disciplines and practices, as they appear within the personal lives of jazz musicians who have incorporated them, for the purpose of providing the modern-day jazz artist with a hands-on resource toward his or her own spiritual studies and development. There will be jazz-master profiles, including names such as Yusef Lateef, Buster Williams, Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Paul Horn, Sonny Rollins, Lonnie Smith, Alice Coltrane, and John Coltrane. Making up the core of the text, will be interviews and accounts of well-known and respected modern-day jazz artists such as Mark Turner, Graham Haynes, Ingrid Jensen, Andrea Brachfeld, Aaron Shragge, Scott Lee, Hugh Reagan and over a dozen more. More than an ethnomusicological study of spirituality/religion within jazz history, the book will include 1<sup>st</sup> person accounts and transcribed interviews with current day jazz artists. (Currently 67 pages)