

jazz composers **Collective**

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THE TED NASH QUARTET



It has been an amazing experience to watch the Jazz Composers Collective grow into its tenth year.

When I look back at all the new music that has been composed and performed at these concerts, it moves me. It seems that some jazz musicians are satisfied with rehashing styles that have been created decades ago. I do believe there is a place for preserving our tradition, and there are several institutions and performing groups successfully filling this role (well, I happen to play in one). But, for jazz to grow and take new directions and move forward, we need to continue creating music that is original and expresses our individuality, and serves as a reflection of our society.

My experience with the Collective has taught me so much about perseverance, an important attribute to have in this business. Most of all, it has shown me that if you continue to do something you love, there are usually people out there who want to be a part of it. Seeing such great support from our audiences has made it a joy to sweat over many newsletter folding sessions.

I think one of the reasons the Jazz Composers Collective has had staying power is because we are having fun. We also feel a sense of responsibility as musicians to reach out and build audiences. Some people out there have a negative approach: "Man, why can't I sell records? Why can't I get gigs?" Everything is negative, instead of just saying, "I love to play."

Although recent events have shown the destructiveness of fear and hate, I believe that compassion and love, while quieter, are much stronger forces. We have before us an opportunity to recognize the beauty of this world and embrace diversity in all forms. Music offers a way to do so. It has the ability to convey love and other positive elements that can inspire people of different backgrounds and cultures to reach a better understanding of each other.

In the last few years, I have felt a commitment more strongly than ever before in many areas of life – a commitment to finding truth and honesty in myself, to seeing the development of ideas and projects through, to trusting my own instincts, and to showing love and respect to the people with whom I come in contact. I realize we all have the potential to create and accomplish much more than we often do. I feel blessed to be here, and look forward to embracing all that is before me.

– TED NASH

Ted has recorded two CDs as a leader for Arabesque Records: *Rhyme and Reason* (1999) and his 2001 release with his band Odeon titled *Sidewalk Meeting*. He has performed and recorded with Joe Lovano, Marcus Roberts, the Gerry Mulligan Big Band, the Carnegie Hall Big Band, and the Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra, and is currently touring and recording with Wynton Marsalis & the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra.

THE FRANK KIMBROUGH TRIO

After the horrific events of 9/11, I, like many of my colleagues, felt a sense that music is trivial.

I couldn't listen to music after that day, and playing seemed even more impossible. When so many people around me were suffering, how could I possibly entertain such an idea? All inspiration had evaporated.

I felt this way for about ten days until the subject of 9/11 came up in a radio interview and I voiced my feelings. The interviewer reminded me that many seek comfort in music in times such as these, and that I should re-evaluate my feelings, try to put things in perspective and keep playing and composing. That conversation was very important to me, and I've done as suggested.

For the past month, I've been on the road almost constantly – European concerts with Michael Blake's Elevated quartet and the Maria Schneider Orchestra, a short tour of the Midwest with the Herbie Nichols Project, and finally a solo performance and two concerts with Ted Nash's sextet in California. It's been a great experience. In each city there have been wonderful audiences and I've had the opportunity to make new friends. I've enjoyed the company of the musicians I've been working with very much. With so much traveling, there has been more time than usual for conversations and comparing notes – not just on music, but on life in general. We've been able to share our enthusiasms, our private lives, our fears. After all is said and done, I've discovered that what the interviewer said was right. My thanks to all the people out there who have demonstrated their love for the music – it makes it all worthwhile.

This concert on December 6 is a homecoming. Five weeks and sixteen flights later, I'm back in New York, and back to playing with my trio – this time with Ben Allison and Matt Wilson. Ben and I have had a most fruitful relationship over the years, one that I hope will continue for a long time to come. Matt and I have had several opportunities to play together recently, and we had such a great time with the Herbie Nichols Project and with Ted Nash's sextet that I didn't want it to end. For this concert, we will play a couple of new tunes, a few old ones, and we'll see what happens. This trio is a mini-democracy, so everyone will have a chance to put in their two cents' worth. Spontaneity is guaranteed! Hope to see you there.

– FRANK KIMBROUGH



Photo: Melissa Richard

Frank's latest recordings as a leader/co-leader include: *Noumena* (Soul Note Records); a duo recording with vibraphonist Joe Locke titled *Saturn's Child* (OmniTone Records); and the new Herbie Nichols Project CD, *Strange City* (Palmetto Records). Look for Frank's two forthcoming CDs on Omnitone Records: *The Willow* (with Joe Locke) and *Quickening* (a trio with Ben Allison and Jeff Ballard recorded live at a Jazz Composers Collective concert).

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upcoming events

PAINTINGS by **ANDREI PETROV** • **HIDDEN ASSETS**
Showing: December 6 - January 5
Pacifico Fine Art Gallery • 546 Hudson Street, NYC
Info: 212-462-2709 • www.pacificoart.com

STEVEN BERNSTEIN'S MILLENNIAL TERRITORY ORCHESTRA
December 21 @ midnight
Tonic • 107 Norfolk Street, NYC
Info: 212-358-7501 • www.tonic107.com

collective notes

- January 24: The Collective presents the music of Peter Apfelbaum & Michael Blake!
- The Jazz Composers Collective's 2001-2002 concert series is made possible with the support of the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust.
- We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their recent contributions: Cameron Brown, Jazz in Cool Places, David Gage String Repair, and GlaxoSmithKline. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Collective, please send a check to: The Jazz Composers Collective, 43 East 10th Street, Suite 4B, New York, NY, 10003. For more info, visit www.jazzcollective.com.

THE JAZZ COMPOSERS COLLECTIVE PRESENTS

THE TED NASH QUARTET

TED NASH saxophones
FRANK KIMBROUGH piano
BEN ALLISON bass
TIM HORNER drums
plus Special Guest

THE FRANK KIMBROUGH TRIO

FRANK KIMBROUGH piano
BEN ALLISON bass
MATT WILSON drums

THE NEW SCHOOL JAZZ PERFORMANCE SPACE
55 WEST 13TH STREET (BETWEEN 5TH & 6TH AVENUES) NYC
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 8 PM
ADMISSION: \$10 (\$5 Students w/ID, Seniors)
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR (beginning at 7:30 pm)
FOR MORE INFO: (212) 995-1552 • www.jazzcollective.com

