

Ted Hogarth, *bandleader and baritone saxophone*

Ted received a Master's Degree in Jazz Composition with Distinction from DePaul University in 2005. Ted is a well-respected jazz educator with a private teaching studio and offers master classes at various schools and universities in the Chicago metropolitan area. He is also a composer who has written compositions and arrangements for schools such as Illinois Wesleyan University and Roosevelt Middle School, as well as features for individual performer such as Mark Colby.

Ted has recorded with many world-class artists including Phil Woods and Slide Hampton. He has performed with a wide array of musicians including Joe Lovano, Lennie Niehaus, Buddy DeFranco, Johnny Griffen, Ramsey Lewis, Kevin Mahogany, Vinny Collaiuta, Bill Hollman, actor Gary Sinese, cedar Walton, Von Freeman, Lonnie Brooks, Lee Konitz, Gerald Wilson, Dave Valentin, Claudia Acuna, Eric Alexander, Dr. Billy Taylor, Bill Dobbins, Alvin Batiste, Mary Wilson and the Supremes, Robbie Folks, Ten Thousand Maniacs, Wayne Newton, and Steven Bernstein.

His CD *Misconception*, released under the Italian recording label Wide Sound, and available through Blujazz.com, is a collection of original compositions with his sextet THC. His first CD *Steps Taken* was inspired by his trip to Cuba in 2000 where he studied at Centro Nacional de Escuelas de Arte with Orlando Sanchez and other master Cuban musicians.

Ted has been a member of the Chicago Jazz Ensemble for eleven years, first under the direction of William Russo, a mentor of Ted's, and now under the direction of Jon Faddis. He is also a proud member of Rob Parton's JazzTech Big Band and Cameron Pfiffner's Marco Polo.

Daniel Nicholson, *alto saxophone and clarinet*

Daniel Nicholson is a Chicago-based saxophonist. To support his jazz habit, passion, and life Dan teaches saxophone and clarinet at local schools, plays weddings, and corporate functions with the Michael Lerich Orchestra, and plays one-nighters with traveling headliners such as Aretha Franklin and Wayne Newton. Having most weekdays and nights free, he has time to rehearse and perform with several original and traditional groups. Dan plays regularly at Green Mill, Fitzgerald's, Images, Bad Dog Tavern, and the Gallery with various groups including the

NIA Quintet, the Dan Nicholson Quartet, the D. Bayne Septet, the John Yao sextet, the Swingshift Orchestra, the John Burnett Orchestra, the ChicagoMetropolitan Jazz Orchestra, Brian O'Hern and the Model Citizens, the Chicago Jazz Ensemble, and others. He has recorded on NIA's latest CD, D. Bayne's latest CD, Nate Wolcott's septet CD, Greg Ducan's latest CD, Alan Gresik's latest CD, and many other commercial CDs and jingles.

Daniel grew up in Chapel Hill, North Carolina where his musicologist mother made him practice saxophone every day. He later studied with Jack Wilkins at University of South Florida and Bunky Green at the University of North Florida where he earned a BM in Jazz Studies. In 1998 he worked in the Disney Grammy All American Jazz Band where he learned invaluable lessons in performance. While in school and at Disney, Dan was fortunate to share the stage with Joe Lovano, Slide Hampton, Arturo Sandoval, Maria Scheider, John Pizzarelli, Jack Jones, Ellis and Wynton Marsalis, and many other legendary musicians and performers.

Chris Madsen, *alto saxophone*

Born in Chicagoland, saxophonist, composer, and educator Chris Madsen made the decision to focus his life and career on music while still in his early teens. After graduating from DePaul University in Chicago with a B.M. in Jazz Studies and studying with saxophonist Mark Colby, he auditioned for and was accepted to the Juilliard School's Jazz Studies program in 2003 and moved to New York City to complete this two-year post-bachelors program. Madsen spent three years in New York, performing with and writing for such jazz masters as Wynton Marsalis, Aaron Goldberg, Victor Goines, Loren Schoenberg, Wycliffe Gordon, Kenny Washington, Jon Gordon, and many others.

After graduating from Juilliard in 2005, Madsen made the decision to move back to his homeland of Chicago in 2006 and has since been artistically involved with much of the local talent, including the Chicago Jazz Ensemble, Rob Parton's Jazztech Big Band, among others.

Madsen remains an in-demand figure in both the New York and Chicago jazz scenes and maintains a private studio from his home in the Chicago suburbs. He currently serves as Program Director for the David Adler Music Center in Libertyville, IL.

Mark Colby, tenor saxophone and clarinet

Born in Brooklyn, New York, the son of a professional drummer and vibraphonist, Mark started on the clarinet at age eight. Inspired by recordings of Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, and others, music became his focal point. Mark added saxophone at age eleven and worked professionally all through high school. He attended the University of Miami, joining a jazz program started by revered player and teacher, Jerry Coker. It was there that he had the opportunity to study with Vince Maggio and play and work with Gerry Mulligan. Mulligan, an artist in residence at the school, put together a small group that went out and played concerts in addition to playing in his big band at school. After attaining a Master's Degree in Jazz Studies, Mark was enlisted into Maynard Ferguson's band. Three years and three albums later, Bob James called and he became a member of James's band for the next six years, recording for Columbia Records as solo artist on two highly acclaimed albums *Serpentine Fire* and *One Good Turn*.

Moving to Chicago in 1980, Mark became one of the first-call studio players in town, recording thousands of jingles and record dates. In 1983, he was approached about teaching jazz saxophone by DePaul University and has been a faculty member ever since. He joined the faculty of Elmhurst College in 1998. In the ensuing years, he has worked with people such as Jaco Pastorius, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Charlie Haden, Mose Allison, Ira Sullivan, and many others. He has appeared with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Milwaukee Symphony. Mark is a Selmer and Vandoren clinician, appearing as guest soloist with high schools and colleges all around the country. He records for Hallway Records with his latest *Speaking of Stan*, a tribute to Stan Getz, receiving rave reviews everywhere.

Rob Denty, tenor saxophone and clarinet

Rob Denty began playing piano at age five and alto saxophone at age 10. Rob enrolled at the University of North Florida in 1990 and graduated in 1994 with a Bachelors of Music. Rob had the good fortune of studying with Bunky Green at UNF for four years - an experience that permanently shaped his conceptual and performing ideas.

In 1995, Rob moved to Chicago and started his Master's Degree program at DePaul University. While at DePaul, he studied with Paul McKee and Mark Colby and earned his Master's of Music in Saxophone Performance. In 2001, Rob became a member of the Chicago Jazz Ensemble in residence at Columbia College, then under the direction of the late William Russo. He continues to be a member of this group, now under the artistic direction of Jon Faddis. Rob presently co-leads the Denty/Westlake Trio, which released its first CD, *Etched*, in June 2006. Rob is an active educator who conducts clinics and workshops and has a full studio of private students. He is currently the woodwind instructor at St. Rita High School in Chicago.

Artists with whom Rob Denty has performed professionally include: Slide Hampton, Ramsey Lewis, Johnny Griffin, Ira Sullivan, Aretha Franklin, Joe Lovano, Buddy DeFranco, Kevin Mahogany, Vinny Calliuta, John Fedchock, Dick Hyman, Bill Hollman, actor Gary Sinese, Cedar Walton, Von Freeman, Lonnie Brooks, Lee Konitz, Lenny Niehaus, Gerald Wilson, Kelly Sill, Dave Valentin, Claudia Acuna, Eric Alexander, Dr. Billy Taylor, Bill Dobbins, Alvin Batiste, and Mary Wilson and the Supremes.

Nick Moran, baritone saxophone, clarinet, and bass clarinet

Nick Moran was born in 1972 and grew up in and around Detroit, Michigan. After studying classical saxophone, clarinet and flute in college, Nick settled in Chicago where he currently lives. He has performed with the Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Jimmy Dorsey, Lawrence Welk, and Nelson Riddle orchestras as well as having performed with Lou Rawls, Jimmy Heath, James Moody, Snooky Young, Ray Anderson, Aretha Franklin, Houston Pearson, Mel Torme, Billy Hart, The Temptations, Marvin Stamm, Wayne Newton, Dick Hyman, Bob Berg and others. Nick has also performed with the Illinois Philharmonic, Kalamazoo Symphony, Rockford Symphony, Macomb Symphony and has been a member of over thirty pit orchestras.

Nick maintains a busy schedule playing around 200 dates a year. He is proud to perform with several ensembles in Chicago - groups made up of some of the finest musicians in the world. Some of the groups he can be heard with are M13, the Bill Porter Orchestra, Brian O'Hern and the Model Citizens, Ted Hogarth's Mulligan Mosaics Big Band, Burgess Gradner's Well Oiled Jazz Machine and Hector Silveira's Orchestra. Nick is currently composing and arranging for an eight-

piece group that will be based on jazz adaptations of the music of Alban Berg.

Tim Coffman, *lead trombone*

Tim Coffman is one of the most active trombonists and teachers in the Chicago area. A graduate of the prestigious Jazz Studies program at Indiana University, Mr. Coffman worked closely with David Baker. He was awarded the Performer's Certificate following his Senior Recital.

Mr. Coffman is in demand for studio and show work and has performed with Frank Sinatra, Andy Williams, Natalie Cole, Lou Rawls, Louie Bellson and many others. Mr. Coffman is on faculty at DePaul University and teaches Jazz Trombone, Jazz Improvisation, Jazz History, Low Brass Techniques and coaches Jazz Combos. In the summer, he teaches at the Jamey Aebersold jazz camp at the University of Louisville and at the MYA jazz camp in Lake Forest, IL.

Bryant Scott, *trombone*

Bryant Scott is a freelance trombonist, composer/arranger, and teacher in Chicago. He has played in a variety of ensembles that cover big bands and jazz to rock/pop to classical chamber ensembles including the Chicago Jazz Orchestra, the John Burnett Orchestra, and Mystic Fire. Bryant has performed with Slide Hampton, Phil Woods, Byron Stripling, Louis Bellson, and many others. Bryant is in demand as a composer/arranger both nationally and locally and also leads a group featuring his own original compositions/arrangements. Teaching, both privately and in the classroom, plays a key role in his musical life.

Originally from Omaha, Bryant received his Masters in Music Performance from DePaul University in Chicago, and his Bachelor of Arts degree in music from the University of Nebraska Lincoln. His teachers have included Charles Vernon (Chicago Symphony); Thomas Matta and Tim Coffman (DePaul University); Randall Snyder; and Scott Anderson (University of Nebraska).

Thomas Matta, *bass trombone*

Thomas Matta earned a B.M. and M.M. (Theory and Composition) from the University of Minnesota-Duluth and the University of Northern Colorado, respectively; he also holds a Certificate in Performance (bass Trombone) from DePaul University. An active performer, Thomas has performed extensively across North America, Europe, and New Zealand, and is one of the most sought-after bass trombonists in Chicago's recording studios, concert halls, theater pits, and other live-music venues. Thomas has performed and recorded with a diverse array of talents including the Woody Herman Orchestra, the Frank Mantooth Jazz Orchestra, Ray Charles, Natalie Cole, Aretha Franklin, Art Garfunkel, Jimmy Heath, Frank Sinatra, Jr., Fulcrum Point, The Colorado Symphony, Concertante di Chicago, the Ravinia Festival Orchestra and others. His compositions and arrangements have been performed and recorded by premier orchestras, big bands, and chamber ensembles worldwide. He is published by Kendor Music, Doug Beach Music, Anadel Editions, and the UNC Jazz Press. Continuing his association with the DePaul University School of Music, where he has been teaching since 1995, Thomas was recently appointed Visiting Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies. He teaches the undergraduate and graduate courses in Jazz Composition & Arranging, as well as applied Tenor and Bass Trombone.

Terry Connell, *lead trumpet*

Terry Connell received the Louie Armstrong Award in 1977 while attending Downer's Grove High School and was named the Best Jazz Soloist in 1981 by the International Trumpet Guild. He received his BM at Northern Illinois University. He has studied trumpet with Richard Berkmeire, Carmine Caruso, Pat Connell, Mike Connell, Ken Ferrantino, Bobby Lewis, Ron Modell, Tony Niecestro, and Terry Sawchuk. He studied musical concepts with Orbert Davis, Bob Ferrel, Carl Fontana, Von Freeman, Tom Harrell, Art Hoyle, Bill Russo, and many others. He has performed with many well-known performers and acts including Julie Andrews, Louis Bellson, Benny Carter, Chicago Jazz Ensemble, the College of DuPage Arts Center Jazz Ensemble, Vic Damone, Buddy DeFranco, Kurt Elling, Manhattan Transfer, Frank Mantooth, Buddy Rich, and many others.

Tom Tallman, *trumpet*

Tom Tallman is Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Ensembles at the College of DuPage, a position he has held since 1990. In addition to a thriving small group jazz program, he directs the

DuPage Community Jazz Ensemble and the Art Center Jazz Ensemble, a parofessional big band in residence at the College. His teaching duties also include courses in music theory, ear training, and American music history. His series of nearly 100 Jazz Birthdays can be heard on WDCB, public radio from College of DuPage.

He is a graduate of Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, where he earned Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees. While at UT, he studied trumpet with Raymond Crisara and jazz performance and pedagogy with Rick Lawn and Jeff Hellmer.

Since arriving in the Chicago area, Tallman has worked with the Manhattan Transfer, Joe Williams, Charlie Byrd, Carl Fontana, Clark Terry, pianist Marian McPartland and Geoff Keezer, and saxophonists Michael Brecker and Scott Hamilton, among others.

Art Davis, trumpet

One of Chicago's leading jazz trumpet artists, Art Davis has been a busy performer and teacher in that city since the early 1980s. As a performer, Davis has had a varied career. He has toured with Ray Charles, Frank Sinatra, and Rosemary Clooney. As a charter member of the Chicago Jazz Orchestra (formerly Jazz Members' Big Band), he has appeared with Joe Williams, Kurt Elling, Dizzy Gillespie, Clark Terry, Nancy Wilson, and Jimmy Heath, among others. He has also performed with such notables as Maynard Ferguson, the Woody Herman Orchestra, Natalie Cole, Diane Shur, Bill Cosby, Sammy Davis, Jr., Tony Bennett, and Michel Feinstein. Art Davis appears on many recordings, including those with Frank Mantooth, Janice Boria, Jackie Allen, Rob Parton, Tommy Meullner, Kelly Brand, and the Chicago Jazz Orchestra.

Art Davis has degrees in Music Education (B.M., University of Illinois) and Musicology (M.M., University of Illinois). As a graduate student, he specialized in ethnomusicology with an emphasis in African music. For over fifteen years, he has been mentored by such master drummers as Gideon Foli Alorwoyle and Abubakari Luna.

Joe Policastro, bass

Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, Joe Policastro, double bassist, began studying piano at the age of five, but switched to the bass at age twelve. As a recipient of the Hugh Hoffman Scholarship Award, Joe earned his Bachelor of Music in Jazz/Studio Music from the College Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati. In addition, he studied Classical Double Bass Performance on full scholarship at Miami University where he was a recipient of both the String Department Award and the Orchestra Award. While in Cincinnati, he performed with local greats such as Concorde recording artist Cal Collins and Stan Kenton drummer John Von Ohlen. Although he is predominantly a jazz performer, Joe is also in-demand as studio and stage musician. He has performed with numerous pit orchestras, symphony orchestras, chamber ensembles and popular music groups. After leaving Cincinnati in 2002, Joe lived and worked as jazz performer in Berlin, Germany. In April of 2003, he moved to Chicago where he quickly enjoyed success as a freelance musician. He has shared the stage with jazz luminaries such as Diane Schuur and Billy Hart, and he regularly performs with many of Chicago's finest musicians such as Judy Roberts, Russ Phillips, Kimberly Gordon, Dan Cray, Andy Distel, Elaine Dame, and Chris Foreman, to name a few. He is featured on recordings by Chicago artists Kimberly Gordon, Jen Zias, Rachel Charson and Petra VanNuis. In addition to his work as a bassist, Joe is also as freelance arranger. He leads, composes and arranges the jazz quartet, Jeru, a group featured at the 2004 Chicago Jazz Festival. His arranging is featured on Petra VanNuis' 2006 release, *A Sweet Refrain*. He has performed at every major venue throughout Chicago including The Green Mill, the Pump Room, Pops For Champagne, Andy's Jazz Club, and Katerina's.

In May 2006, along with his wife, Marie, Joe temporarily relocated to Bonn, Germany where he performed and taught throughout the Rhineland.

While in Bonn, he organized a European version of his quartet, Jeru with members of the WDR Big Band for concerts and festivals in Germany.

In April of 2007, he returned to Chicago where he continues to pursue his jazz career.

Ed Breazeale, drums

Ed Breazeale is a drummer who loves to perform and entertain. Ed was born and raised in Raleigh, North Carolina. He began playing drums at age 10 and started playing professionally at

age 14. In 1995, Ed moved to Cincinnati, Ohio to study at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. While in school Ed maintained a busy performance schedule, having the opportunity to play styles of music ranging from symphonic to country and western. Also, Ed began to pursue his passion for jazz. Devoting most of his time to improving his drumset skills, Ed began to perform with the local jazz talent in Cincinnati. Ed felt very fortunate to be mentored and to perform with Cincinnati musicians such as Phil Degreg, Steve Schmidt, Jim Connerly and Steve Flora in addition to being taught by Jon Von Ohlen, Steve Barnes, and Allen Otte. In August of 2001 Ed left Cincinnati for Chicago. Since moving Ed has been fortunate enough to perform with a number of local notables. These include: Bobby Broom, Steve Million, Ryan Cohan, Art Davis, and Larry Gray among others. Also, Ed has shared the stage with jazz luminaries such as: Cyrus Chesnut, Maria Schnieder, Billy Hart, Jim Snidero, Tim Ries and Brad Goode. Ed has been a featured performer with the Louisville Symphony Orchestra, and the CCM Philharmonia. Currently, Ed performs with several groups regularly including Jeru, The Mulligan Mosaicas Big Band, The ITQ, and his own quartet the Ed Breazeale Group. In addition, Ed teaches jazz, improvisation and percussion at Niles West High School and Loyola Academy.