

Terry Gordon Quintet



About

The Terry Gordon Quintet's creative, adventurous approach to original music has been a hallmark of the band since its inception. The unified group sound springs from the experienced, creative players that make up the quintet, who thoroughly enjoy bringing the material to life for the enjoyment of jazz audiences everywhere. The band's music has been recognized with a New York State arts grant for composition, and has been featured on television shows and radio.

With the combination of creative players and unique original compositions, the Terry Gordon Quintet has created its own distinctive brand of musical excitement.

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Press

"This group's strengths are many, from the proven writing skills of Gordon and Walentowicz, to the always-fiery approach of guitarist Michael-Louis Smith." - Metroland

"marvelous fluegelhorn...top notch players." - Times Union, Albany, N.Y.

"A fine disc of nine new jazz compositions...reflect(ing) a blend of tradition and innovation." - International Trumpet Guild Journal

"high marks for the extent to which they 'pushed the boundaries' of traditional forms and styles...in a live set this variety would certainly get noticed; something for everyone" - Cadence Magazine

"a great date filled with solid performances and inspired compositions" - Albany Jazz

Discography

Wakeup Call - 1996 (buttonhooks)

Contemplations - 2002 (Flying Gurnard)

Homeward Bound - 2006 (WEPA)

Tomorrow Calling - 2013 (WEPA)



Terry Gordon (trumpet, flugelhorn, composer): A graduate of Houghton College and Mansfield University, Terry has appeared at the Montreal and Rochester International Jazz Festivals, the Albany Riverfront Jazz Festival, the Bridge Jazz Festival, and the Cairo (Egypt) International Jazz Festival. He performs regularly with the Arch Stanton Quartet, Alex Torres y su Orquesta, the Empire Jazz Orchestra, and Brass-O-Mania. He has appeared in programs with Bobby Rydell, Leslie Gore, The Temptations, Benny Golson, Randy Brecker, David "Fathead" Newman and numerous others. His recording credits include releases with the Terry Gordon Quintet, Alex Torres y Su Orquesta, the Arch Stanton Quartet, the Empire Jazz Orchestra, Colleen Pratt, Keith Pray's Big Soul Ensemble, the Joey Thomas Big Band, and Brass-O-Mania.

Eric Walentowicz (tenor and soprano saxes, flute, composer): Eric majored in Studio Music and Jazz at the University of Miami and North Texas State University. His teachers have included Ed Calle, Rick Margitza, Gary Campbell, Gary Keller, Andy Middleton, Bob Franceschini, Dave Tofani, Ted Nash, and Clemente Barone. He has backed such artists as George Merritt, Ray Anthony, Bobby Rydell, Fabian, Jerry Valle, and Eddie Fisher. In addition to the Terry Gordon Quintet, he is also a member of the Tim Olsen Big Band, the Mike Dimin Ensemble, New Regime, Body & Soul, as well as his own EW Quartet. His recording credits include releases with Mike Dimin, Ria Curley & Chuck D'Aloia, New Regime, Dr. Tim Olsen, the Joe Barna Quartet, Jeff Gonzales, and the Terry Gordon Quintet.



Michael-Louis Smith (guitar): Michael-Louis Smith's modern straight-ahead sound was influenced by many jazz greats, his unique style drawing upon almost any genre in an effort to explore and expand the possibilities of the music. Michael attended the Conservatory of Music at Purchase College, studying with many jazz luminaries. Since earning a Masters in Music in 2005, he has resided in New York City and continues to compose music for and tour regionally and nationally with the various ensembles he leads.

Bill Lawrence (bass, composer): A graduate of Oakland University, Bill has been a featured soloist and clinician at such venues as Kingdom Bound Music Festival, Inferno, Heartsong Festival, and the Eastern Regional Music and Arts Conference. An in-demand session player, Bill's bass tracks are on over 40 album projects to date. As a writer, Bill's music has been featured on C.D.s from his internet-based fusion group the Funkdawgs, as well as his solo bass C.D "Music From The Bass Guitar".



Pete Sweeney (drums): Drummer, author, and educator, Pete studied with Dave Calarco and Joe Morello. He has performed, toured, and recorded with many great musicians such as Pat Metheny, Larry Coryell, Lee Ritenour, John Abercrombie, Robben Ford, Andy Summers (The Police), Ronnie Earl, Duke Robillard, Ed Mann (Frank Zappa), Frank Gambale, Lorne Lofsky, "Dangerous" Dan Toler, Johnny "Clyde" Copeland, Mick Goodrick, and Steve Bailey. He has written 20 instructional books for the Alfred publishing company including the "30 Day Drum Workout", "The Versatile Drummer", and the "Drum Atlas" books on Cuba, Jamaica, Salsa, and Brazil. Pete currently teaches at the Berkshire Music School, Bard College at Simon's Rock, the Troy Music Academy, Union College, and the Crown of the Continent Guitar Foundation. He is a member of the Latin jazz group Sensemaya, as well as the leader of his own groups. He is an endorser of Mapex drums, Sabian cymbals, Vic Firth sticks, and Aquarian drum heads.