

Charley Gerard

Charley Gerard is the director of the BRSQ. He is a composer, saxophonist, editor (Gerard & Sarzin Pub. www.gandspub.com) and author of books on Latin music and jazz.

Reviews of Charley Gerard's music:

"Gerard's playing displayed...chops and range...His lived-in feeling for this material was matched by pianist Carl Banner's stylish, rhythmically scrupulous keyboard work. Two compositions by Gerard...revealed humor and crossover composing skill." Washington Post (9/12/2007)

"With a muted, yet powerful tone and special attention toward phrasing and accent structure, Charley Gerard and Carl Banner opened these ears to a concert repertoire of jazz and dance influenced works with roots in the early twentieth century." hurdaudio.blogspot.com/2007/10/viva-gerard.html

"Brilliant music by Gerard." Dance Magazine (1976)

"Saxophonist Charley Gerard is a gifted composer in his own right, as anyone present at neighboring St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Church's Halloween concert might remember. That concert premiered Gerard's piece *The Headless Horseman*, a jazzy, galloping romp of fun fright, and definitely one of that evening's highlights." Brooklyn Eagle 12/03/2009
Wednesday, October 14th, 2009 4:41 PM

Chris Bacas

"A sensitive, lyrical saxophonist and flutist who plays with stunning authority." Pianist Dr. Billy Taylor

Chris Bacas has played with the Glenn Miller Band, the Tommy Dorsey band and the Artie Shaw band. In 1986 he joined legendary drummer Buddy Rich and remained with him until Rich's passing in 1987. Chris has performed in many jazz festivals: including Nice, Moers, Northsea, Cork, Santiago, Montreal, Texaco, Annapolis, JVC New York and Central PA Jazz Festivals; the Hollywood Bowl; LA's Comedy Store; New York's Blue Note and Birdland; Chicago's Jazz Showcase; and Washington DC's Blues Alley and One Step Down. Chris was a member of the Smithsonian's Jazz Masterworks Orchestra under conductors David Baker and Gunther Schuller. In 1999 Chris was soloist on both flute and saxophone in Mary Lou Williams' "Mass" which was performed and recorded in the National Cathedral.

Wednesday, October 14th, 2009 4:42 PM

Tom Olin

Tom Olin performed with the Illinois Jacquet Big Band from 1988 until Jacquet's recent death. He has also performed with Lionel Hampton, Gladys Knight, Eartha Kitt, Frank Foster, Jaki Byard and Leonard Gaskin, and has performed on Broadway. In 2008 he toured with John Scofield and the Sco-Horns.

Jenny Hill

“A musician of high quality and depth of understanding.” Saxophone Journal (2003)

Jenny Hill is a saxophonist, composer, and arranger. She has a diverse musical resume, which includes jazz, reggae, and funk artists. She has performed with pop and world beat artists such as the Easy Star All-Stars, Maxi Priest, Burning Spear, Bernie Worrell, DJ Logic, Eumir Deodato, Daniel Ponce, Toots and the Maytals, MC Solaar, Govt. Mule, and Corey Glover. While a member of the DIVA big band, she performed with jazz artists Nancy Wilson, Clark Terry, Dave Brubeck, Joe Williams, Cab Calloway, and Dianne Schuur. Jenny has been the recipient of several honors including a National Endowment of the Arts Jazz Studies grant with Joe Lovano, winner in the JAZZIZ Woodwinds On Fire competition, and the Lennie Johnson Outstanding Musician scholarship from Berklee College. Her latest jazz CD, the Chill Factor, was featured in the JAZZIZ Sept. 2007 issue and subscriber CD. <http://www.jennyhilljazz.com/>

Lisa Parrott

“One of Australia’s most creative jazz musicians” Australian Jazz and Blues As of Fall, 2010, the Broken Reed Saxophone Quartet has a new baritone saxophonist: Lisa Parrott (left-of-center). Lisa, who comes from a small town in Australia, first came to New York in 1993, and received two Australia Council for the Arts grants to study in New York with saxophonists/composers Steve Coleman and Lee Konitz. Her career has taken off in NY as a sideperson as well as a leader. She received recognition for her baritone saxophone playing in the 69th Annual Downbeat Readers Poll where she placed 5th. Lisa Parrott and her sister, bassist Nicki Parrott, performed at the prestigious Tribute to Mary Lou Williams Festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. in 2002. She has performed with such great musicians as Dave Brubeck, Nancy Wilson, Skitch Henderson and the New York Pops, Diane Schuur, Gregory Hines, Rachel Z, Cindy Blackman, Gunther Schuller, Clifford Barbaro, Denis Charles, Lea Delaria, Jason Linder’s Big Band, DIVA, Rob Reddy’s Horn Choir, the Jimmy Heath Big Band and the Jimmy Dorsey Big Band. She has toured with the best of Australia’s ensembles, including John Pochee’s Ten Part Invention, Paul Grabowsky’s Australia Art Orchestra, Lloyd Swanton’s The Catholics, James Morrison’s Big Band, Mara Kiek Quartet and Jackie Orszacksky. She also has appeared numerous times on television and in magazines including Downbeat, CMJ Music Magazine, Billboard, Vogue (Australia), Dolly and Australian Jazz and Blues. www.lisaparrott.com