

Contact:

Gary Stager, Ph.D.
gary@cymbalpress.com
310-874-8236
Twitter: cymbalpress



Jazz Dialogues

Generations of jazz greats share their inner thoughts with saxophonist and educator Jon Gordon

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Cymbal Press is proud to announce the publication of *Jazz Dialogues*, the revealing new book by acclaimed saxophonist and educator, Jon Gordon. This intimate account of the inner lives of great musicians extends the tradition of books like Arthur Taylor's classic, *Notes and Tones*.

Backstage, on the bus, or in the studio, saxophonist Jon Gordon, winner of the prestigious Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone competition, chats with several generations of great musicians. From Jay McShann to Renee Rosnes, *Jazz Dialogues* lets the reader hang out with dozens of jazz artists to learn about their careers, influences, and the dues they've paid. These candid, poignant, and often hilarious conversations paint a first-person portrait of jazz history.

Jazz Dialogues includes road stories and candid conversations with the following artists: Jay McShann, Eddie Locke, Cab Calloway, Maria Schneider, Jan Garbarek, Ken Peplowski, Tim Hagans, Mark Turner, Hank Mobley, Bill Easley, Doc Cheatham, Scott Robinson, Eddie Bert, Phil Woods, Danny Bank, Billy Drummond, Ben Monder, Charles McPherson, Milt Hinton, Ben Riley, Bill Stewart, Art Blakey, Jon-Erik Kellso, Eddie Chamblee, Jimmy Lewis, Chuck Redd, Bill Charlap, McCoy Tyner, Melissa Aldana, Ronnie Mathews, Kevin Hays, Jim McNeely, Steve Wilson, Red Holloway, Barney Kessel, Joe Williams, Quincy Davis, Bob Mintzer, Dick Hyman, Lee Konitz, Leroy Jones, Renee Rosnes, David Sanborn, Gil Evans, Don Sickler, Sean Smith, Sarah Vaughn, Derrick Gardner, Sylvia Cuenca, Harold Mabern, Gene Bertoncini, Mike LeDonne, Essiet Okon Essiet, Bill Mays, and Joe Magnarelli.



"*Jazz Dialogues* is a rarity among books about jazz: It's a book about people—the individual creators who devote their lives to the making of this profoundly individualistic art. It took a writer who's a first-call musician himself to capture the way jazz artists think and feel, on the bandstand and off. From Cab Calloway and Doc Cheatham to Maria Schneider and Steve Wilson, Jon Gordon brings us face to face, mind to mind, heart to heart, with dozens of fascinating musicians. Like a great player in a jazz band, Gordon knows not only how to play, but how to listen." – **David Hajdu, author of *Lush Life: A Biography of Billy Strayhorn***

"In this singular collection of conversations and anecdotes, which features a remarkably diverse group of major artists, Jon Gordon creates a rarified atmosphere of trust and mutual respect, allowing each artist to speak directly from their essence. He writes with style, humor, and elegance. Gordon honors the music, friendships, and artists he loves with the highest respect, humility, and passion." – **Bill Charlap, Grammy Award-winning pianist & Director of Jazz Studies, William Paterson University**

About Jon Gordon

A native New Yorker, saxophonist and composer Jon Gordon was born into a musical family and began playing at age ten. In addition to private saxophone studies, he attended Performing Arts High School and won numerous competitions, including the Julius Grossman, Goldman Band, and Performing Arts Concerto competitions. This led to performances as a soloist with the Julius Grossman Orchestra, Goldman Band, and the Performing Arts Orchestra. Jon Gordon is also the winner of the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition.

In his mid-teens Jon's love for jazz was sparked after a friend played him a Phil Woods record. He began sitting in regularly with Eddie Chamblee at Sweet Basil and started lessons with Phil Woods. From 1984-88 he attended Manhattan School of Music. During this time Jon began sitting in with Charles McPherson, Doc Cheatham, Phil Woods, Mike Stern, Jacky Terrason, and others, as well as working professionally with Red Rodney, Roy Eldridge, Barney Kessel, Al Grey, Eddie Locke, Mike LeDonne, Mel Lewis, Doc Cheatham, Leni Stern, Larry Goldings, Ben Monder, Peter Bernstein, Bill Stewart, Billy Drummond, Bill Mays, Leon Parker et al. Since that time, he has worked with Maria Schneider, Clark Terry, Benny Carter, Phil Woods, Ron McClure, T.S. Monk, Tana Reid, The Vanguard Orchestra, Bill Charlap, Ray Barreto, Mark Turner, George Colligan, Chico Hamilton, Jimmy Cobb, Ben Riley, Harry Connick jr., Bob Mintzer, Bill Mobley, Aretha Franklin, Bruce Springsteen, Tony Bennett, Corrine Bailey Rae, John Scofield, Kenny Wheeler, Lewis Nash, Roland Hannah, Peter Washington, Kenny Washington, The Prism Saxophone Quartet, The Carolina Philharmonic, The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, and the New York Pops Orchestra among many others. He frequently appears at leading New York City jazz clubs, concert halls and festivals around the world.

In addition to performing, Jon Gordon is an assistant professor at the University of Manitoba.

About Cymbal Press

Cymbal Press is an imprint of Constructing Modern Knowledge Press specializing in books about the arts and artists. CMK Press is an independent publisher of influential books by creative educators for creative educators with more than a dozen titles published in eight languages. Most recently, Cymbal Press released *Life in E Flat - The Autobiography of Phil Woods*.

Jazz Dialogues by Jon Gordon

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