

JASON LINDNER

ABOUT

*"Jason Lindner is a musical universe." - **Chick Corea***

*"Rhythm provides more than a heartbeat for the pianist Jason Lindner... Mr. Lindner seems only partly interested in jazz's idiomatic customs. What matters to him is groove, however it comes." - **New York Times***

*"Lindner ranks among the finest all-around pianist-composers of his generation." - **Time Out New York***

Pianist Jason Lindner has been a fixture in the New York jazz scene (his hometown) since the mid-90s when the venerated Greenwich Village club, **Smalls**, became the home for a new generation of forward-thinking jazz musicians. After leading a number of quintet and sextet gigs at the club, the big band performances quickly became the focal point for critics who frequently wrote about the club, and record label representatives eagerly tried to capitalize on the buzz. Lindner regularly drew sold-out crowds on Monday nights at Smalls, which earned them their GRP/Impulse! records debut on the compilation disc **Jazz Underground/Live At Smalls**, followed by their debut full-length release on **Chick Corea's Stretch** label, **Premonition**, and their 2007 double-disc **Live At The Jazz Gallery** (Anzic).

*"This guy [Lindner] is tearing up the jazz scene. Easy to see why. He has enough personality to make his presence felt in the midst of a roaring big band." - **Keyboard Magazine***

*"...one of the most impressive big bands to emerge in years." - **JazzTimes Magazine***

*"The arrangements [are] as full as an orchestra twice this one's size." - **Downbeat Magazine***

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Pianist, composer, multi-keyboardist, band-leader and arranger, Jason Lindner, grew up in Brooklyn, New York, and was naturally able to learn to play radio, television and film music by ear while only a few years of age. At age 7 he began formal piano studies, followed by guitar, saxophone, flute, bass and drums. He attended F. H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Art (subject for the 80's TV-series *Fame*), and formed lasting ties with many musical colleagues. His professional career began with performances at local galleries, clubs and restaurants, as well as in the great performance halls of Carnegie and Lincoln Center with school, city and state ensembles.

The pianist's most influential teachers were **Barry Harris** (the "keeper of the bebop flame"), and **Chris Anderson** (also teacher of Herbie Hancock), though Lindner is largely self-taught from recordings and "on the job" experience. Always guided by the light of his mentors, Lindner explains, "Everything I've inherited from my elders - the masters who passed on this music to my generation - I use as tools but really try to connect with what's happening now; to just melt into this current musical moment in history and not worry about style or genre. Just be part of the music."

Following his own path, Jason played in Latin dance bands, accompanied jazz vocalists at the jazz community theater *The University Of The Streets*, and composed for and led varying ensembles. He began touring and recording with Israeli bassist **Avishai Cohen** and Chilean vocalist **Claudia Acuña**, becoming more interested in seeking out different forms of musical expression from around the globe in search of a vitality which he felt was lacking in much of jazz. "No type of music is more important than any other," Lindner claims. "They are all pieces of the global musical puzzle - the universal language of Music. Just as knowing multiple verbal languages broadens one's native tongue, sharpens the mind and increases one's ability to express, so does knowledge of multiple musical forms make one a more complete musician and brings us closer together as one race of humanity."

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Jason Lindner attended the Mannes College of Music and the New School, where he is an adjunct faculty member. He appears on over 35 recordings, 5 as a leader.

Throughout his musical career he has been both able and fortunate enough to have shared stage and/or studio with many incredible artists including:

Miscellaneous artists: **Meshell Ndegeocello, Lauryn Hill, Amel Larrieux, Matisyahu, Mark Guiliana's Beat Music, Pharaoh's Daughter, Pink Noise, Baba Isreal, Yako 440, Open Thought, Kokai, Duv, The Henry Mancini Orchestra, Dakota Staton,**

Jazz artists: **Chick Corea, Roy Haynes, Christian McBride, Branford Marsalis, Elvin Jones, Lionel Loueke, Mark Turner, Bill Cosby, Roy Hargrove, Avishai Cohen, Jeff Ballard, Dianne Reeves, Anat Cohen, Jon Hendricks, James Moody, Junior Cook, Lou Donaldson, Clarence "C" Sharpe, Jimmy Vass, Jimmy Lovelace, Vernel Fournier, Omer Avital**

International artists: **Claudia Acuña, Oliver Dragojovic, Paquito D'Rivera, Dafnis Prieto, Edmar Castañeda, Alon Olearchik, Marina Maximilian Blumins, Husnu Senlendirici, Avi Lebovich, Eva Ayalon, Juan Sebastian Monsalve, Malika Zarra, Yosvany Terry, Curupira**