

Trio East | EPK



About

The members of Trio East met on the faculty of the Eastman School of Music in 2001 and have been continuously active as a group and as the nucleus of several other projects, including the Eastman Jazz Quartet led by Harold Danko and others led by Richard Perry and Bill Dobbins.



CONTACT

For more information on the group, future performances, and booking information please contact Rich Thompson at <https://www.richthompson.net/>

Clay Jenkins - <http://www.clayjenkins.net/>

Jeff Campbell - jcampbell@esm.rochester.edu

Further press: <http://sonsofsound.com/artist/trio-east/>

Albums are also available on iTunes, Amazon Music, Origin Records and on each of the members websites.

Bios

Clay JENKINS moved to Los Angeles in 1978, where he affiliated with The Stan Kenton Orchestra, The Buddy Rich Big Band, and The Count Basie Orchestra. Since joining the Eastman faculty in 2000, Clay continues to perform and record with the Clayton/Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, of which he is a charter member. Clay has recorded with Milt Jackson, Diana Krall, Billy Harper, Lyle Mays, Peter Erskine, Rufus Reid, Ray Brown, Kurt Elling, Dr. John, Eric Reed, Rich Perry, Ernestine Anderson, and Karrin Allyson, among others.

Jeff CAMPBELL has performed with Marian McPartland, Gene Bertoncini, Rich Perry, Harold Jones, and the Eastman Jazz Quartet at festivals throughout Europe, the former Soviet Union, and the Baltic Republics. Additionally, Jeff is a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and has appeared on McPartland's Piano Jazz program on NPR. A professor at Eastman since 1997, his teaching duties include jazz bass, jazz history, jazz theory and aural skills, and small group performance. He is also the author of a book on the famous Duke Ellington-Jimmy Blanton duets.

Rich THOMPSON has been in demand as a top call drummer in Rochester for the past 25 years. He's served as an Associate Professor of drum set since 1996 and the Jazz Lab Band director at the Eastman School of Music since the fall of 2007. Rich has toured, performed, and recorded with the "who's who" of jazz greats including pianist James Williams (Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers), The Count Basie Orchestra, Tito Puente, Frank Foster, The Byron Stripling quartet, saxophonist Rich Perry, the Bill Dobbins Trio, Harold Danko, Marion McPartland, Trio East (which includes Clay Jenkins and Jeff Campbell), trumpeter Snooky Young, guitarist Gene Bertoncini, Carl Fontana, Phil Woods, Joe Pass, and a host of others too numerous to mention. The Boston Globe cited Rich as "the drummer who drove the Basie sound" when he appeared with them at the Boston Jazz and Blues Festival.

Rich has been touring this country and abroad with the Byron Stripling Quartet since 2008 and the Quartet's new CD, released December 2016 is entitled "Have Trumpet, Will Swing". His CD entitled "Trio Generations" was released in May of 2012 on Origin Records. His CD entitled "Less is More" recorded with trumpet sensation Terell Stafford, pianist Gary Versace, and bassist Jeff Campbell was released in May 2013 on Origin Records as well, and was in the Top 50 jazz "radio play list." Both projects were included on the long list for Grammys. Rich's latest CD "Triocity" on Origin Records w/Charles Pillow and Jeff Campbell hits the streets August of 2017.

Rich has performed with numerous symphonies in the U.S. and Canada and his clinics have taken him as far as France, Japan, and St. John's Newfoundland. Rich has written four drum set books published by Kendor Music USA and Advance Music-Germany. Visit Rich on his website to listen to clips or watch videos of him with The Count Basie Orchestra or his "Generations Trio" at the Rochester International Jazz Festival.

www.richthompson.net

Press and Quotes

"The clarity of their ideas is a complete pleasure to listen to, and results in a truly wonderful horn trio. I'm knocked out by their playing, and the group is a most welcome addition to the jazz scene."

- Peter Erskine

CD OF THE WEEK. Four of those talents are part of a superb new CD: For the Love, from Trio East. The trio is trumpeter Clay Jenkins, bassist Jeff Campbell and drummer Rich Thompson. On this album, the trio becomes a quintet, with the addition of pianist Harold Danko and guitarist Larry Koonse. (West Coaster Koonse is the only musician not on the Eastman faculty.)

The disc is an impressive studio set of originals, beautifully played and improvised by five talented musicians. Interestingly, a live version of some of the same material is also available on another recent disc, Live+2 at Kilbourn Hall, which makes it fun to compare and contrast the studio versus in-concert performances.

- Jack Garner, Democrat & Chronicle, February 12, 2016

"Captured live in concert, the members of Trio East (Jenkins, Campbell and Thompson) display the communication and intuition developed through years of collaborating since first meeting on the Eastman School of Music faculty in 2001. On this date, the group is joined by two long-time friends and colleagues: pianist Harold Danko and guitarist Larry Koonse. The spontaneity of the live performance provides dynamic contrast with the companion studio session recorded two days later and released as For The Love (Sons of Sound SSPCD033). Taken together, these recordings document a performing unit at the height of its powers."

- Sons of Sound

Discography



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Led by the drummer the Boston Herald described in 1996 as "the powerhouse who drove the Basie sound," Stop-Start is a horn trio recording that features the interplay of three veteran instrumental masters. Inspired by jazz tradition, the program includes originals and interpretations of compositions by John Coltrane, Dizzy Gillespie, Ornette Coleman, Lee Morgan, and Mal Waldron.



The members of Trio East met on the faculty of the Eastman School of Music in 2001 and have been continuously active on their own while forming the nucleus of many other projects, including the Eastman Jazz Quartet led by Harold Danko and sessions with Rich Perry and Bill Dobbins. For this recording, the trio is joined Eastman colleague Danko on piano and frequent West Coast collaborator Larry Koonse on guitar. This studio date is complimented by a concert performance by the same group at the Eastman Theatre that is documented on the recording Live+2 at Kilbourn Hall (Sons of Sound SSPCD034). Together, the contrasting live and studio sessions constitute a master class in jazz composition, instrumental technique, and improvisation.

