

THE GEOFF LAPP TRIO

WWW.GEOFFLAPP.COM
GEOFFLAPP@MYJAZZMAIL.COM

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BAND BIOGRAPHIES

'THE GEOFF LAPP TRIO' HAS BEEN A CORNERSTONE OF THE MONTREAL JAZZ SCENE SINCE 1999. HAVING PLAYED EXTENDED GIGS AT MANY OF THE TOWN'S PREMIERE NIGHT SPOTS, THE GROUP HAS BECOME A HOT DRAW FOR AFICIONADOS IN SEARCH OF THAT HEADY SPACE WHERE SOULFUL AND CEREBRAL FUSE -- THE ALEMBIC WHERE GREAT JAZZ MOMENTS EMERGE. IT IS A SOUND THAT IS QUINTESSENTIALLY MODERN: TASTEFUL, INNOVATIVE, AND INFECTIOUSLY SWINGING. IT'S BEEN SAID THAT THE JAZZ PIANO TRIO -- PIANO, UPRIGHT BASS, AND DRUMS -- IS THE "DISTILLED ESSENCE" OF THE GENRE. JAZZ DELIVERED STRAIGHT, NO CHASER: THAT'S THE 'THE GEOFF LAPP TRIO'.



DRUMMER DAVE LAING WAS BORN IN KITCHENER ONTARIO AND GREW UP IN A MUSICAL FAMILY. HE WAS INTRODUCED TO JAZZ MUSIC BY HIS FATHER AND OLDER BROTHER. DAVE STUDIED AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY IN MONTREAL AND BEGAN HIS PROFESSIONAL CAREER SHORTLY THEREAFTER. IN THE PAST FIFTEEN YEARS HE HAS RECORDED, TOURED, AND PERFORMED WITH SUCH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STARS AS JIMMY HEATH, JUNIOR COOK, ED BICKERT, DENZAL SINCLAIRE, BEN MONDER, AND RANEE LEE. HE CURRENTLY RESIDES IN MONTREAL WHERE HE ALSO TEACHES AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY.



BASS PLAYER -PAUL JOHNSTON MOVED TO MONTREAL FROM OTTAWA IN 1990 TO STUDY JAZZ BASS AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY. BEFORE COMPLETING HIS STUDIES HE BEGAN WORKING AT CLUBS AND FESTIVALS AS WELL AS ON RADIO AND TELEVISION IN MONTREAL, TORONTO, QUEBEC, OTTAWA, KINGSTON. HE WAS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE JAZZ GROUP PANACHE, WITH WHOM HE WON A JAZZ REPORT AWARD FOR JAZZ VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR IN 1996. HE RETURNED TO MCGILL TO STUDY SOUND RECORDING IN 1999. IN 2001 PAUL COMPLETED THE HIGHLY REGARDED M. MUS IN SOUND RECORDING. WHILE REMAINING ON THE JAZZ SCENE AS A BASS PLAYER, HE HAS BRANCHED OUT AS A PRODUCER/ENGINEER.

GEOFF LAPP

BIOGRAPHY

GEOFF LAPP, A MONTREAL NATIVE, WAS BORN IN 1953, AND IS CONSIDERED ONE OF CANADA'S MOST ACCOMPLISHED PIANISTS/COMPOSERS; HE IS A MUCH SOUGHT-AFTER ACCOMPANIST FOR A HOST OF TOP CANADIAN PERFORMERS.

ORIGINALLY TRAINED IN THE CLASSICAL TRADITION, MR. LAPP STUDIED AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY UNDER THE WIDELY RESPECTED ART MAISTE. OVER TIME, HE BECAME KNOWN FOR HIS EXCELLENT TECHNIQUE AND LARGE REPERTOIRE OF JAZZ STANDARDS. AFTER GAINING EXPERIENCE IN THE POP MUSIC WORLD TOURING WITH THE LIKES OF MICHEL PAGLIARO, HE PERFORMED IN SALSA, COUNTRY, FUNK AND ROCK BANDS. IN THE EARLY '80'S HE BECAME COMMITTED TO THE JAZZ IDIOM AND HAS NOT LOOKED BACK SINCE THEN.

HE HAS PERFORMED WITH RENOWNED JAZZMEN SUCH AS PAQUITO D'RIVERA, DON MENZA, RICHIE COLE, SONNY FORTUNE, AND SLIDE HAMPTON, AMONG OTHERS. ON ONE OCCASION, LIZA MINNELLI, IN TOWN FOR A CONCERT APPEARANCE AND FINDING HERSELF AT BIDDLES LATER THAT EVENING, LIKED THE BAND SO MUCH THAT SHE SPONTANEOUSLY JAMMED WITH THEM AT THE LANDMARK MONTREAL NIGHTCLUB. (IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT GEOFF LAPP IS ONE OF THE FEW CANADIAN JAZZ MUSICIANS WITH SUCH AN EXTENSIVE CLUB GIG; LENGTH OF WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED NO DOUBT TO HIS EVOLUTION AS A PLAYER.) LAPP HAS PERFORMED EXTENSIVELY WORLDWIDE, IN FESTIVALS AND CLUBS BOTH IN NORTH AMERICA (LAFAYETTE, LAKE TAHOE, LOS ANGELES, THE CARIBBEAN) AND OVERSEAS (BEIJING, CHINA, THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, AND IN EUROPE).

AT HOME IN QUEBEC, HE IS A MAINSTAY ON THE VIBRANT JAZZ SCENE, AND HAS PERFORMED WITH A WHO'S WHO OF LOCAL LUMINARIES: DAVE TURNER—MICHEL DONATO — JERI BROWN — BOB MOVER — KEVIN DEAN—PETER LEITCH — JANIS STEPRANS — RANEE LEE — GEORGE EVANS —DENZIL SINCLAIR —JOHN LABELLE — MICHEL LAMBERT — RON SEGUIN — CHARLIE BIDDLE — CHARLES ELLISON AND THE MONTREAL JUBILATION GOSPEL CHOIR.

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CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

JAZZ FESTIVAL APPEARANCES

MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, LAFAYETTE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ N' BLUES FESTIVAL, TORONTO INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL, TORONTO DUMAURIER JAZZ FESTIVAL, OTTAWA JAZZ FESTIVAL, MONCTON JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL, RIMOUSKI JAZZ FESTIVAL, THE OFF JAZZ FESTIVAL, QUEBEC JAZZ FESTIVAL

SOUNDTRACK/ CD

THE WHOLE NINE YARDS – WARNER BROS
RECORDED MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL THEME SONG 1989

CBC RECORDINGS

JAZZ BEAT – FRANÇOIS RICHARD (2006)
15TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF JAZZ BEAT- CBC (1998)
JAZZ WORDS -JERI BROWN, SONNY FORTUNE, DON MENZA

CONCERT PERFORMANCES/LIVE RECORDING

SONNY FORTUNE, SLIDE HAMPTON, DENZAL SINCLAIRE, PAQUITO D'RIVERA, BOB MOVER, GEORGE EVANS, MONTREAL JUBILATION GOSPEL CHOIR, JOHANNE DESFORGES,FRASER MCPHERSON DAVE TURNER, JANIS STEPRANS, ADAM BROUGHTEN, RITCHIE COLE, PETER LEITCH, MICHEL DONATO, SAM NOTTO, RAINEE LEE, MIKE ALLEN, KEVIN DEAN, CHARLES ELLISON, CLAUDE RANGER, GERRI BROWN, GUIDO BASSO BERNI PRIMEAU, BILLY ROBINSON, SAXOPHONIST BILL EVANS

FILMS & VIDEO

ONE EYED KING, BETHUNE, THE WHOLE NINE YARDS
PBS DOCUMENTARY 'CROSSROADS' HISTORY OF JAZZ IN MONTREAL

MEMORABLE DROP INS

WINSTON MARSALIS & LIZA MINNELLI

AWARDS /SHOWS

BLUE MET, GOVERNOR GENERAL BOOK AWARDS (2006)

ON TOUR WITH

VOCALISTS, JOHN LABELLE, STEPHANIE BIDDLE, ARLENE SMITH, JOHNNY SCOTT, ROCKER MICHEL PAGELARIO

HOUSE GIGS

1999 - 2006 QUEUE DE CHEVAL, MONTREAL
1985- 98 WITH CHARLIE BIDDLE/JOHNNY SCOTT, BIDDLES JAZZ & RIBS, MONTREAL

GEOFF LAPP

PRESS REVIEWS

“...Lapp demonstrates an equally impressive array of talents as soloist, accompanist and composer... his... technique contains equal proportions of passion and lyricism, and he has no trouble sustaining the flow of ideas...” **CADENCE JAZZ JOURNAL, USA**

“...Lapp is a knowledgeable, lyrical pianist who swings like a barn door. He represents much of what makes Montreal such a great city to love jazz in.” **THE MONTREAL GAZETTE**

“... Lapp reads all cues perfectly, providing an incisive rhythmic sense and well shaped statements that swung without cliché, were harmonically adventurous yet remained firmly in the tradition...” **GEOFF CHAPMAN, THE TORONTO STAR**

“... He’s one of the city’s finest pianists, and anyone who has frequented any of the city’s jazz club’s knows Geoff Lapp is synonymous with quality musicianship, taste and flexibility...”
THE MONTREAL GAZETTE

“... Lapp... knows so many tunes, accompanies a soloist so carefully, and works so hard to shape the progress of a piece that he is an asset in any band...” **MONTREAL GAZETTE**

“... considerable compositional skills...” **THE JAZZ REPORT, TORONTO**

“... take note of the growth of the annual jazz festival that has brought more widespread and well deserved recognition for talented jazz artists like Lapp... tasteful... swinging... check out Lapp” **CADENCE JAZZ JOURNAL, USA**

“...confident and sensitive playing...” **THE GLOBE & MAIL, TORONTO**

“...biggest pleasures here provide by...Lapp...a wealth of ideas...his skill is obvious...”
MONTREAL GAZETTE

“...handsome sampling of bop and ballads...” **WINNIPEG FREE PRESS**

“...as Oliver Jones moves up in the jazz world, younger Montreal players take his place: Geoff Lapp, pianist...” **OTTAWA CITIZEN**

“...Quant au pianiste Geoff Lapp, il complète bien la formation par un style très recherché. Ses pièces en trio parmi les points forts du disque.” **LF**

“...Au piano, Lapp a un style qui se singularise par sa fluidité et son à-propos – les notes de Lapp arrivent toujours à point... à l’aise dans tous les tempi, Lapp s’affiche comme un des meilleurs pianistes au Canada”

“...(L’album Contrastes) met en relief les talents des musiciens exceptionnels...”

GEOFF LAPP

DISCOGRAPHY

- 2006 **STAINED GLASS** | THE GEOFF LAPP TRIO | ELEPHANT RECORDS
- 2005 **A MONTREAL JAZZ CHRISTMAS** | SOUNDGOOD PRODUCTIONS
- AD INFINITUM** | FRANCOIS RICHARD | EFFENDI RECORDS
- 2004 **EASY LIVING** | THE GEOFF LAPP TRIO WITH JOHNNY SCOTT
- 2002 **LIVE AT THE QUEUE** | THE GEOFF LAPP TRIO AND GUESTS
- 2002 **SOUNDTRACK /CD** | THE WHOLE NINE YARDS | 2 TRACKS
- 1995 **PAPO ROSE ET ORCHESTRE PAMBICHE**
- 1995 **SECOND SET** | JANIS STEPRANS
- 1994 **JUBILATION V** | MONTREAL JUBILATION GOSPEL CHOIR
(JUNO AWARD WINNER) JUSTIN TIME RECORDS
- 1993 **NEW MORNING** | JANIS STEPRANS
- 1992 **JAZZ WORDS** | GERI BROWN | CBC RECORDINGS
- 1990 **CONTRASTS** | THE GEOFF LAPP TRIO FEATURING JOHNNY SCOTT
- 1987 **PERSPECTIVES** | WITH BERNIE PRIMEAU
- 1986 **FROM NOW ON** | THE GEOFF LAPP TRIO WITH JOHNNY SCOTT
- RECORDED MONTREAL JAZZ FESTIVAL 86 THEME SONG**
- 1975 ENTERPRISE** | CBC RECORDINGS | ALBUM JANE FAIR