

Freddie Bryant and Kaleidoscope

****Live Grooves...Epic Tales****

Release date – Oct. 23, 2012

Release gig/party – at the Jazz Standard, NYC 10/23

Featuring:

Freddie Bryant—electric, nylon, 12-string guitars and vocals

Donny McCaslin—tenor sax

Yosvany Terry—alto sax, shekeré

Patrice Blanchard—electric bass

Willard Dyson—drums

With guest appearances by:

Steve Wilson—flute

Juan Galiardo—piano

Freddie Bryant's new edition of his KALEIDOSCOPE QUINTET continues his habit of finding inspiration in rhythms from around the world. His past CDs have often featured Brazilian, Latin and African rhythms. This new set of music also draws from these traditions but adds a healthy taste of American roots with a soulful Gospel groove, a slow Blues and a funky New Orleans jam on a tune dedicated to Bo Diddley featuring his Telecaster as well as driving Indian/Middle-Eastern tour-de-force played on his 12-string guitar. The CD clearly defines Freddie's interpretation of a musical kaleidoscope – each new track is another colorful collage of rhythmic grooves and guitar timbres.

Live Grooves...Epic Tales is also a document of the dynamic live sound of the group and truly captures the energy and infectious spontaneity listeners hear at their New York club performances. Songs develop and grow with the building blocks of inspirational solos, group improvisations, shifting dynamics and contrasting sections and are transformed from short stories into epic tales.

The current group features two of the finest saxophonists in New York City. Donny McCaslin and Yosvany Terry bring the power and history of jazz saxophone to the group as well as their own influences from traditional Cuban music to modern jazz styles. Patrice Blanchard and Willard Dyson form the core of the rhythm section and can groove with intensity in any style. Guest appearances by Steve Wilson, a longtime collaborator of Freddie's, and Spanish pianist, Juan Galiardo add more shapes to this polychromatic venture. All of these musicians have impressive resumés and have recorded and performed with countless artists at the top of the music industry. Many are leaders in their own right with acclaimed CDs and here add their unique perspective to Freddie's compositional concept. The intimate nature of the guitar trio complimented by this all-star line-up gives the audience a look into the drama, power and subtlety of their music.

For booking or more information on performances and tour schedules please visit:

www.freddiebryant.com or call 646-373-7069



Freddie Bryant & Patrice Blanchard
with Kaleidoscope – Live at Smalls

The gig also featured:

Yosvany Terry – alto and *Willard Dyson* – drums

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The great guitarist Kenny Burrell wrote, “Freddie Bryant is a brilliant young guitarist and composer.” He is a versatile musician skilled both in jazz and classical music. Freddie is currently in demand in the New York jazz scene where he works with Ben Riley’s Monk Legacy Septet (“Memories of T” on Concord Records), The Ben Riley Quartet (new CD release – March, ’12), the Mingus Orchestra and his own group, ***KALEIDOSCOPE***.

Freddie has also had the honor of touring with three legends of the music world: African singer, *Salif Keita*, the virtuoso klezmer clarinetist, Maestro *Giora Feidman* and the jazz trumpet great, *Tom Harrell* (as a member of his quintet, 1999-2001). He has recorded and/or played with *Tom Harrell, D.D. Jackson, Steve Wilson, Kevin Hays, Brad Mehldau, Chris Potter, Rosanna Vitro, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Sheila Jordan, Randy Brecker, David Sanchez, Joshua Redman, Wynton Marsalis, Max Roach, Lonnie Smith* and many others. He is also on the first call list of many singers and Brazilian musicians because of his sensitive accompanying and his knowledge of Brazilian guitar and has toured with pianist/singer *Eliane Elias*.

Over the years he has toured in 50 countries and has had the opportunity of collaborating with musicians from a wide variety of backgrounds including the Indian sitarist, *Shubhendra Rao*, the Kenyan singers, *Achien’g Abura, Suzanna Owiyo*, the Taarab master oud player *Zein L’abdin* and traditional groups in Saudi Arabia and the U.A.E. In 2006 he performed in Cuba as a solo artist and spent a week of musical exchange with Cuban musicians including the trumpet player, “*El Greco*” formerly of Irakere. He has toured as a cultural ambassador for The U.S. Department of State four times and performed at the Kennedy Center with the *Billy Taylor Trio* appearing on National Public Radio Show, “Live at the Kennedy Center.”

This international experience has energized and inspired his music as is evident in the new and exciting CD scheduled for release in Fall, 2012 with Kaleidoscope. The group features a powerful front line of *Donny McCaslin* (tenor) and *Yosvany Terry* (alto) with a grooving rhythm section of *Patrice Blanchard* (electric bass) and *Willard Dyson* (drums). It also features guest appearances by master saxophonist, *Steve Wilson* and Spanish pianist, *Juan Galiardo*. The music is a kaleidoscope of rhythms and influences including soulful Gospel, driving Indian/Middle Eastern, sensual Bolero and funky New Orleans rhythms in addition to Brazilian and Afro-Cuban rhythms.

His previous CDs as a leader include: *Brazilian Rosewood, Boogaloo Brasileiro, Live at Smoke* (Fresh Sound Records) and *Take Your Dance into Battle* (Jazz City Spirit). He has two recent self-titled CDs with collaborative groups: *Trio del Sol* with *Misha Piatogorsky* and *Gilad* and *Dharma Jazz* with *Lewis Porter, Badal Roy* and *Karttikeya*.

Education has always been a large part of his musical life. He has taught all ages from young children to university students and has lectured about jazz to audiences around the world. In 2004 he was chosen to be a Copeland Fellow at Amherst. He received his BA from Amherst College '87 and Master's degree in classical guitar from the Yale School of Music. He currently is on the faculty at the Berklee College of Music and the Prins Claus Conservatory in Groningen, Holland. He was previously a professor in the Africana Studies and Music departments at Williams College.



BAND BIOGRAPHIES

DONNY McCASLIN – Tenor/Soprano saxophone

A graduate of the Berklee School of Music, has had a saxophone in his hands from his earliest years and has integrated the entire range of sounds that a tenor sax can produce into his repertoire: from mainstream modern to funky fusion to laid-back balmy ballads, all flavored with his own experimental style. When he was only 12 years old, McCaslin joined his father's group. He studied with Paul Contos and Brad Hecht, accomplished members of his father's groups, and was influenced by the likes of John Coltrane, Michael Brecker, and Sonny Stitt.

McCaslin's technique and expression allowed him to tour with all-star youth ensembles through Europe and Japan, and won him a full scholarship to Berklee College of Music starting in 1984. During his senior year at Berklee he joined vibraphonist Burton's quintet, and for four years the group toured Europe, Japan, North America, and South America. During 1991, after moving to New York City, McCaslin became a member of Steps Ahead, replacing Michael Brecker, one of his major influences. McCaslin actively gigged with top jazz artists and groups, such as the Gil Evans Orchestra, George Gruntz Concert Jazz Band, the Danilo Perez Quartet, the Maria Schneider Jazz Orchestra, and Santi Debriano's Panamaniacs, plus he appeared on many recordings.

During 1997 McCaslin joined with David Binney (alto), Scott Colley (bass), and Kenny Wollesen (drums) to form Lan Xang, an experimental jazz collective that released Mythology. In 1998 Naxos released Exile and Discovery, McCaslin's first solo record. Arabesque Records released 2000's Seen from Above, an album in which McCaslin integrates blues, swing, and fusion, reflecting his skill both as a composer and a soloist. Since then he has recorded six more CDs with great critical success. Donny McCaslin's reputation, technical skills, and artistic gifts are unique, attracting a long list of collaborators with whom he has performed and recorded.

YOSVANY TERRY—alto sax and shekere

Born in Cuba, Yosvany received his earliest musical training from his father, Eladio “Don Pancho” Terry, violinist and Cuba’s leading player of the chekeré. His father was also known as the founder and director of the Orquesta Maravillas de Florida, one of Cuba’s most important charanga bands. Yosvany went on to receive his classical music training and graduated from both the prestigious National School of Art (ENA) and Amadeo Roldan Conservatory.

While in Cuba, Yosvany was known for his musical innovation performing with the likes of legends such as Chucho Valdez, Silvio Ródriguez, Fito Páez, and Cubanismo, as well as forming the influential group, Columna B. Their work represented the new voice of young Cuban jazz players. Columna toured throughout the US and Europe, and in 1998 premiered their *Inroads* Commissioned-piece by Arts International (through the Ford Foundation) at Stanford Jazz Festival.

Yosvany came to New York in 1999 and was immediately recognized as a “spectacular talent” in the jazz scene, playing with Roy Hargrove, Steve Coleman, Eddie Palmieri, Dave Douglass, Jeff “Tain” Watts, Horacio “El Negro” Hernandez, and bassist Avishai Cohen.

Always a student, Yosvany has absorbed and incorporated American jazz traditions with his own Afro-Cuban roots to produce compositions and solo work that flow from the rhythmic and hard-driving avant-garde to sweet-sounding lyricism. His voice and style are unique and complex, and with his new Quintet he has married Cuban and American musical traditions to create a new and exciting sound.

Yosvany’s latest production, *Metamorphosis*, represents the investigative work he’s been doing since arriving in New York. The compositions on this record reflect portraits and experiences of life in Havana and New York, while at the same time recreate the stamp of many other cities Yosvany has passed through, touring as a musician.

PATRICE BLANCHARD—bassist

Patrice Blanchard was born on the island of Martinique and is now a New Yorker. His years of living in the French Caribbean, Tahiti in the South Pacific and in a multi cultural Paris, strongly shaped his musical ears. He completed schooling in France, studied dance in Germany but was a late starter on electric bass. Largely self-taught, he incorporated all the elements of his past and present—Haitian, Cuban, Brazilian, Puerto Rican and American musical influences with strong African musical cultural contributions.

Blanchard's musical career picked up in London in the early 90's before moving to the USA in 1994. He has performed and/or recorded with progressive jazz, groove and avant garde musicians Dave Fiuczynski, The Black Rock Coalition, DJ Logic, Josh Roseman, Doc Powell, Steve Coleman, Andy Milne, Peter Apfelbaum and The New York Hieroglyphics, Bill Kreutman (from the Grateful Dead), Amy Winehouse and African musicians Kasse Mady Diabate, Angelique Kidjo, and Nahowa Dumbia, Kaissa N'doumbe,. His sound is a result of the fusion of all these elements, of the African Diaspora, New York's energy, a love of traditional music all fused with pulsing grooves.

WILLARD DYSON—drums

Willard Dyson, an active and extremely talented drummer on the New York and international music scenes, came to New York City in 1986 from Oakland California. A versatile musician, Willard is at home in a myriad of musical genres including Jazz, R&B, African, Latin and Brazilian music. Willard has worked regularly with a diverse group of musicians including Michael Franks, Joe Sample, Charlie Hunter, Regina Belle, Grady Tate, The Boy's Choir of Harlem, Jimmy Scott, The New York Voices, Dakota Staton and Cassandra Wilson.

He keeps very active in New York City by playing at local clubs, concerts, recording and private instruction. Willard often tours the United States, Japan and Europe as well as numerous other countries. In 2003 he toured North Africa, The Middle East and South Asia as part of the U.S. Department of State and Kennedy Center's Jazz Ambassador Program with

Freddie Bryant's "Kaleidoscope Quartet".

He has been called, "perfect, imaginative, sensitive, exciting and subtle, with a stunning flair for devastating funk," in The Wellington Journal.

In 2000 Willard was a featured percussion soloist with the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra for the U.S. premier of Takashi Yoshimatsu's saxophone concerto 'Cyber-Bird'. Willard has also appeared on many national television shows including The Tonight Show, Soul Train, The Arsenio Hall Show, Good Morning America, The Today Show and BET. Willard has been playing percussion since the 5th grade when he received his first drum set. He also sang in his church choir throughout junior and senior high school and received a scholarship to participate in the prestigious Young Musicians Program at the University of California at Berkeley.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Percussion Performance from California State Hayward University and a Master of Music degree in Jazz and Commercial Music from the Manhattan School of Music in New York City

JUAN GALIARDO—pianist

Juan was born in Seville, Spain in 1976. He graduated from Cadiz University in 1998 and from Berklee College of Music in 2004.

Juan has worked with Jerry Bergonzi, Dave Santoro, Gregory Hutchinson, Ruben Rogers, Mark Whitfield, Darren Barrett, Dick Oatts, Joe Magnarelli, Freddie Bryant, Mark Ledford, Andrea Michelutti to name a few.

He has performed in the USA, Japan, Phillipines, England, Ireland, France, Portugal and Spain. Currently Juan teaches at a Jazz program in Cádiz University. He organized the "Cádiz International Jazz Workshop" during 4 years.

His debut CD, just released has gotten great reviews including this one from Rhapsody.com:

"Galiardo has released a debut as a bandleader that suggests he can hold his own in an acoustic jazz context as both a player and composer. His crackling

small group (with drummer Andrea Michelutti, bassist Dave Santoro, tenor player Jerry Bergonzi and trumpeter Joe Magnarelli) plays with a warm, focused sound on up-tempo tunes like "Blues for Dave" and the swinging waltz "Otaru Souko," which sounds like a lost Hank Mobley side."

STEVE WILSON – flute/alto sax, featured GUEST ARTIST

Biography is attached separately.