

Josh Nelson

832 Grand Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804

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Instructional Experience

- Guest Instructor/lecturer (jazz combos, big bands, and harmony courses) at UCLA, Cal Arts and for the Thelonious Monk Institute Beyond the Bell After School Jazz Program
- Ten years as a private piano instructor with an emphasis in jazz performance and theory
- Former piano instructor at LaMarca Music Academy, ages 6 to 15 (Torrance, Calif.)

Education

- California State University, Long Beach (graduate, 2004)
Bachelor of Music, Performance Degree with an option in Jazz Studies
- Berklee College of Music Summer Program (1996)
- Berklee College of Music in Los Angeles Summer Program (1995)

Original Compositions and Arrangements

Jazz Trio, Quartet, Quintet, Sextet Pieces

“The Nazarene” - orchestrator/arranger for original musical

9 and 10-piece ensemble jazz pieces

“Influences” for Flute and Piano

“Victory” for Wind Symphony

Other Recording and Composition Work

“Use as Directed”- Styopa Films (original score)

“Tuskegee Airmen- Freedom Fighters” (documentary, original score)

“First Daughter”- Paramount (piano performance)

“Jack and Bobby”- Warner Bros. (piano performance, composition)

“Lucky”- FX Network (piano performance, composition)

“The Division”- Lifetime Network/Paramount/Viacom (piano performance, composition)

Numerous Student Film Projects (USC, UCLA, CSULB)

Tours and Performances Abroad

Sara Gazarek Musical Director- U.S., Japan, and Canada Touring (2005-2008)

National Taiwan Tour with Hollywood Pops Orchestra and Broadway Chamber Orchestra (1998)

National Taiwan Tour with Ars Nova Chamber Ensemble (1999)

Performed, Worked, or Studied with:

Ralph Moore, tenor sax

Ernie Watts, tenor sax

Buddy Collette, alto sax

Peter Erskine, drums

Bill Watrous, trombone

Albert “Tootie” Heath, drums

John Guerin, drums

Bill Cunliffe, piano

Benny Green, piano

Tiger Okoshi, trumpet

John Prince,

composer/arranger

Michael Kamen, composer

Eric Idle, actor

Lawrence Fishburne, actor

Mike Vax, trumpet

Kim Richmond, alto sax

Bruce Eskovitz, tenor sax

Brian Swartz, trumpet

Tony Dumas, bass

Chuck Manning, tenor sax

Steve Cotter, guitar

Luther Hughes, bass

Abe Laboriel, bass

Jim Snidero, alto sax

Chuck Flores, drums

Alex Acuna, percussion

Melissa Manchester, vocalist

Gilbert Castallenos, trumpet

Steve Huffsteter, trumpet

Cecilia Coleman, piano

Sandra Booker, vocalist

Jeff Littleton, bass

Nate Birkey, trumpet

Mike Barone,

composer/arranger

Putter Smith, bass

Sal Marquez, trumpet

Annie Sellick, vocals

Jennifer Leitham, bass

Rhiannon, vocals

Honor Groups (high school)

SCSBOA Jazz All-Stars (1996, piano)
Grammy (N.A.R.A.S.) Jazz Band (1996, piano)
SCSBOA Jazz Band (1995, piano)

Ventura County Honor Band (1994, trumpet)
CSUN Honor Band (1994, trumpet)

Awards and Scholarships

Semi-Finalist, 2006 Thelonious Monk
International Jazz Piano Competition
Tom Talbert Scholarship (2003-2004)
Howard Baker Scholarship (2000)
Dramatic Allied Arts Guild Scholarship (1999)
Gerald H. Strang Scholarship (1998)
S.A.I. Scholarship (1997)

CSULB Music Dept. Scholarship Recipient
(1996-2000)
Louis Armstrong Award (1996)
John Philip Sousa Award (1996)
Full Tuition Scholarship, Berklee College of
Music (Summer Session-1996)

Outstanding Jazz Soloist Awards

IAJE International Conference (1998, 1999)
Cuesta Jazz Festival (1996)
Royal Jazz Festival (1993, 1995, 1996)

Reno Jazz Festival (1996)
Fullerton Jazz Festival (1994)
Dos Pueblos Jazz Festival (1995)