

## **BUDDY BUDSON**

Jazz Pianist, Composer, Arranger, Educator, Community Contributor

### **PERFORMING CAREER**

Has performed regularly as jazz pianist at clubs, concerts, festivals, corporate and private events in the Detroit area and elsewhere for over 50 years

Performed at the 2010 Grand Hotel Jazz Festival on Mackinac Island

Performed many times at the Detroit International Jazz Festival (formerly, the Ford/Detroit International Jazz Festival, and the Montreux/Detroit Jazz Festival) since its inception in the early 1980's through, and including, 2011

Performed with many well-known musical artists such as Henry Mancini, Mel Torme, Sammy Davis, Jr., Marlena Shaw, Charles McPherson, Michael Urbaniak, Terry Gibbs, Buddy DeFranco, Mel Lewis, and Steve Nelson

Opened concerts for many international artists, including Oscar Peterson, Dizzy Gillespie, and Tania Maria

Through the late 1990's and 2000's, led, performed, and recorded with the Buddy Budson Sextet at 3 Detroit Jazz Festivals and numerous concert and jazz-club venues

In the late 1990's and early 2000's, frequently performed original compositions with the Paul Keller Sextet

From 1992-1994, co-led a quintet featuring noted Detroit jazz greats, Marcus Belgrave and George Benson

In 1975-76, toured and recorded with the Four Tops

In 1974-75, toured and recorded with Earl Klugh

In 1973-74, toured U.S., England, and Australia and recorded with the Buddy Rich Big Band

Through the 1970's, 80's, and 90's, performed in the pit orchestras in all the major Detroit theatre venues

## **COMPOSING AND ARRANGING**

In 2011, created supplemental composition and full arrangement for 27-piece orchestra, led by Marcus Belgrave, for the "Heidelberg Project", a concert tribute to the noted visual artist, Tyree Guyton

Arranged and performed on all selections on the 2008 recording: "That's Me", Robert McCarther

In 2008, arranged a Donald Walden composition for full orchestra for the 2008 concert tribute to Walden by the Marcus Belgrave Orchestra

Composed 7 of 8 selections, led and performed with the ensemble on the 2005 recording: "On With Their Heads", The Buddy Budson Sextet

Arranged and performed on all selections on the 2005 recording: "From My Heart to Yours", Naima Shamborguer

In 2004, composed and performed on, "States of Entropy", a suite for dance ensemble and jazz trio with the Detroit Dance Collective

Composed selections on the 2003 recording: "A Blossom Sings", Naima Shamborguer

In the 2000's, collaborated with noted Detroit-based bassist and composer, Marion Hayden in arranging two suites for jazz and vocal ensemble

Beginning in the 1970's, created and performed on big band, string ensemble, and full orchestra arrangements with noted Detroit bands and orchestras including, the Brookside Jazz Ensemble, the Austin-Moro Band, the Jimmy Wilkins Orchestra, and the Southfield, Warren, Royal Oak, and Rochester Symphony Orchestras

Composed and performed on the opening- and closing-credit theme music and scene transitional music for the 3-season (1987-89) run of the Fox Television Network sitcom, "Duet"

## **LYRIC-WRITING AND JOURNALISM**

Created lyrics for well-known jazz compositions, "Fried Bananas" (Dexter Gordon), "Bye-Ya" (Thelonious Monk), "Second-Handy Motion" (Steve Swallow), and "Seascape" (Johnny Mandel)

Interviewed legendary jazz pianist, Hank Jones, for the Jazz Talk Tent Series at the 2009 Detroit International Jazz Festival

Interviewed Detroit jazz greats, Harold and Ray McKinney, for the Michigan Opera Theatre Michigan Artist Video Archive Series

In the 1990's, contributed articles, interviews, and reviews regularly to Detroit Jazz Magazine

### **AWARDS**

2006 Detroit Metro Area Musicians and Entertainers Association Teddy Harris, Jr. Legendary Award

Metro Times Best of Detroit Jazz Pianist Award

### **EDUCATING**

From 2009 through the present, was faculty member for all jazz mentorship programs at the Arts League of Michigan

From the 1980's through the present, put on clinics at Detroit-area elementary, middle, and high schools and at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and Dearborn, Michigan State University, and Wayne State University

From the 1980's through the present, taught jazz piano and theory privately

From 1984-86, was private-teaching faculty member in Wayne State University's jazz program

In the 1980's, took part in the jazz program at the Center For Creative Studies' Institute of Music and Dance

In the 1980's, mentored young people at the Actors Alliance Theatre Company

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

From 1996, to the present, has, as a volunteer, performed at the Susan G. Komen Detroit Race For the Cure for breast cancer, sponsored by the Karmanos Cancer Center

Helped establish and performs regularly for the Henry Ford Hospital-West Bloomfield Music Heals Program

In 2011, as a volunteer, arranged, performed, and participated as a planner on the steering committee, of a fundraising event at Detroit's Orchestra Hall to benefit Children's Leukemia

Has volunteered his talents for other cancer-related activities and events for Karmanos and for Gilda's Club

From 1997-'99, served as a board member for C.H.I.P. (Creative Healing Initiative Partnership), an organization dedicated to addressing the undermet healthcare needs of the artistic community

Was a regular participant in fund-raising events for Focus Hope from the 1970's-'90's

Through the 1970's and '80's, was a regular participant in fund-raising efforts for Muscular Dystrophy, performing at events and appearing on the Telethons

Also, through the 1970's and '80's, regularly performed for children and parents at fundraising events sponsored by Head Start

## **RECORDINGS**

- 2011 "New Beginnings", Doug Halladay
- 2010 "After the Rain", Shaun Anderson with the Buddy Budson Quintet, dentondonley.com (pianist, arranger)
- 2008 "That's Me", Robert McCarther, robertmccarther.com (pianist, arranger)
- 2004 "The Masters of Music Big Band", The Masters of Music Big Band (pianist)
- 2005 "On With Their Heads", Buddy Budson Sextet, Ursbud Music (pianist, composer, arranger)
- 2005 "The Masters of Music Big Band - Volume II", The Masters of Music Big Band (pianist)
- 2005 "From My Heart to Yours", Naima Shamborguer, Shambones Music (pianist, arranger)
- 2003 "A Blossom Sings", Naima Shamborguer, Shambones Music (pianist, composer, arranger)
- 1998 "Unwind", Compilation of Detroit Jazz Artists, Creative Healing Initiative Partnership and Gilda's Club (pianist, arranger)
- 1998 "Hope For the Holidays", Detroit Jazz Greats, S & S Entertainment Group (pianist, arranger)
- 1987-'89 Sound Track of Fox Television Network sitcom, "Duet" (pianist, composer, arranger)
- 1982 "The Montreux/Detroit Collection, Volume Two: An Evening of Song" (pianist)
- 1976 "Catfish", the Four Tops, Motown (pianist)
- 1976 "Live at the Roxy", Earl Klugh (var. Blue Note Artists), Blue Note (pianist)