

Performed with:

(Collectively and Individually)

Phil Woods, Al Cohn, George Young, Lew Tabakan, Nick Brignola, Gerry Niewood, Randy Brecker, Tom Harrell, Brian Lynch, Tim Hagans, John Swana, Maynard Ferguson, Vic Juris, Howard Roberts, Harry Leahy, Larry Coryell, Bill Watrous, Urbie Green, Bob Routh, Bob Dorough, Kim Parker; and a host of pianists, bassists and drummers. You get the idea.....

Selected Clubs:

The Village Gate, The Cutting Room, Tavern on the Green, McKell's (NYC), The Deerhead Inn (Delaware Water Gap, Pa.), Ortlieb's Jazz Haus (Phila., Pa.), Trafalador Café (Buffalo, NY.), John & Peter's (New Hope, Pa.), Jazz y Pops (Buenos Aires, Arg.), Club Med (Nice, France),

Selected Fests:

MUSIKFEST- BETHLEHEM, PA., CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS (COTA)- DELAWARE WATER GAP, PA., WICHITA JAZZ FESTIVAL- KANSAS, FESTIVAL de ANO- FOR- TALEZA, BRAZIL, UMBRIA FEST, ITALY

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Lectures combine musical performance and demonstration with verbal instruction. Trumpet, percussion, sax, guitar, organ and drumset are used.

** Custom tailored for age / educational levels*

** Written outlines can be supplied*

** Several popular themes to choose from*

POPULAR TOPICS AND THEMES

“What is Jazz?”

Utilizing familiar cartoon themes such as the Three Blind Mice and the Flintstones through performance and narration demonstrate; form feel, rhythm, harmony and the over-all concept of Improvisation. Always inviting participation, our goal is to make young students aware of our rich national treasure called “JAZZ”

“Our Small World”

A look at the last 50 years. A compact program designed to take students through the evolution of jazz. Highlighting influences from around the world.

The Music “ BUSINESS”

An informative program designed to explore all avenues of performance and promotion relating to music.

Noted Credits

Alan Gaumer has been a rostered Pa. artist in education sponsored by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. He has served numerous residencies.

NELSON HILL

ALAN GAUMER

BILL WASHER

CRAIG KASTELNIK

GARY RISSMILLER



**A Jazz Quintet
with
an exciting
and signature
sound**



Evolution of a quintet

CO-OP BOP, a Quintet, has developed in various combinations since the late 1950's. Alan Gaumer (trpt) & Craig Kastelnik (org.), coached by Craig's father (KAL) appeared on the Ted Mack Original Amateur Hour as "kids". Their association continued to grow. Along the way, Tom Kozic, @ 17 years of age, began to play guitar with Alan's Quartet. By the late 1970's Gary Rissmiller took over the drum chair. And while this group was playing one of it's common steady "gigs" at a local venue, Nelson Hill (sax) burst on to the scene. Since that time they have continued to perform together building a library of standards and original compositions. They have consistently played under each others names sharing leadership roles. Recently because of their mutual respect for one another, they came to conclusion that a group name was in order.

SO.....it's official:.....

Co operative boperative or CO-OP BOP

Individual Bios



Alan Gaumer, trumpet, began playing in 1958. He was a member of Kal's Kid's appearing on the Ted Mack Original Amateur Hour and numerous other T.V. shows. He graduated High School in 1969 and attended the U.S. Navy School of Music. He performed with the US NAVY BAND and toured extensively around the world playing in and visiting some 75 countries. Throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America. He is currently jazz trumpet Artist/ Lecturer at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa. He also performs in duo with his partner in life, Robin Bryan. He is a major contributor to the groups library.



Nelson Hill, woodwinds, has studied with Phil Woods, Hal Galper, Eddie Daniels and James Caruso. Nelson graduated from the Eastman School of Music in 1981 with a B.M. in Saxophone performance. He has performed with the National Jazz Ens., and recorded with Maynard Ferguson and The Phil Woods little Big Band just to name a few. In addition to his work with the Quintet he also performs with pianist Eric Mintel In 2002 Nelson became an Artist Representative and Clinician for the YAMAHA Corp. of America. He also released his first CD "Lethal"



Craig Kastelnik, organ, performs a wide variety of musical styles. Although Craig lives and performs regularly in the Lehigh Valley (N.E. Pa.), he has played clubs and concerts throughout the U.S. He has performed with artists in many different genres such as Country stars Eddie Rabbitt & Crystal Gayle, R&B personalities Gladys Knight and the Pointer Sisters and the legendary Bob Hope. He has composed music for television and film including A&E's award winning BIOGRAPHY series, the History channel, PBS and others. Craig and his wife Pat form the popular duo KATO.



Bill Washer, guitar, grew up in Rochester, N.Y. He studied music at the Eastman School of Music and Berklee College of Music in Boston. In 1973 he moved to New York City to play guitar with the Joffrey Ballet Company and began freelance work.

He has done numerous Broadway shows including West Side Story, Grease, 42nd Street, The Lion King and others. He has performed with a virtual who's who of personalities in both commercial and jazz venues. Including: Stevie Wonder, Whitney Houston, Stan Getz, Elvin Jones, Bob Mintzer, Bernard Purdie, and Frank Sinatra. In addition to his work with Co-op Bop he plays with his own trio, (The absolute trio) and currently performs regularly with Liza Minelli and singers/songwriters Ashford and Simpson.



Gary Rissmiller, drums, A musician's musician. For over 35 years, Gary has been performing with the greatest players in the jazz genre. In the last year alone, in addition to recording with CO-OP BOP, he has been involved in several other recording projects. He is co-leader of the Tony Gairo- Gary Rissmiller Big Band and plays regularly with numerous trios. In between teaching at Muhlenberg College (Allentown, Pa.) and Moravian College (Bethlehem, Pa.) he found time to perform and teach in Italy. He is truly one of the most in demand drummers on the scene today..

Collectively and individually these musicians have spent their lives in pursuit of ...

"JAZZ PAR EXCELLANCE"

***inside panel lists a virtual who's who of credits accomplished by the quintet collectively and/or individually.
Note: Full press kits available with over 100+ published*

KUDOS

Educators:

"I know the students benefited from hearing you explain and demonstrate jazz feel/swing (Three Blind Mice), Blues form (Spiderman), and song form (Flintstones), and multi-cultural influences (St. Thomas). You are to be complimented on your manner with the students."

R.Morris, Band Director, Bethlehem School District.

"Your explanation of melodic, harmonic and stylistic trends relating to different periods of jazz was clear and concise. Every aspect of your group's performance- intonation, phrasing, stylistic shading, harmonic structure, improvisatory coherence and fluency-was stellar."

G.MacGill,
Band Director, Liberty High School.

Performers and Press:

"I found them (Co-Op Bop) to be very creative"
Randy Brecker

*"Their playing is absolutely top shelf, improvisational skills first rate"*Robert Rouch

*"Nelson is one of the finest young alto players in the world. And the band can do some serious playing....."*Phil Woods.

Co-Op Bop...."a resounding success, complete with standing O....." Dan Hartzell - Call Chronicle, Allentown Pa.

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