



Jason's Notes: Nov. 9, 2009

I'm writing this week's note at midnight as Nov. 8 becomes Nov. 9. I just got back from New York City. Last night I saw **Vijay Iyer** and his trio at The Jazz Standard. It was a powerful show, featuring a standout performance of MIA's "Galang," which appears on Vijay's new album, *Historicity*. Vijay was on the show a couple months ago.

Also last night, I caught a show by the improv group FACE, which features a team of actors and a jazz quartet. The quartet includes several former Eastman students, including my good friend **Josh Rutner** of the Respect Sextet, and also. (Also in the band is Ben Gallina, who'll be on the show in early 2010.)

I spent three hours today with **Cooper-Moore**. He's a multi-instrumentalist who builds many of his own instruments and who has crafted a strong personal vision. It was an inspiring afternoon, complete with an unexpected private concert on the harp and the diddley-bow (both of Cooper-Moore's own design). Look for my interview with Cooper-Moore in the coming weeks.

I also interviewed percussionist, vibraphonist and musical explorer **James Shipp** this evening at an Irish session in the Bronx. James is a superb musician whose band, Nos Novo, combines Irish and Brazilian music with improvisation. Look for that interview later this fall.

You may remember my announcement earlier this year that I had booked **Kareem Abdul-Jabbar** for an appearance on the *The Jazz Session*. That interview has gone the way of the dodo, but it left me with a fun and frustrating look at booking famous athletes. You'll find the whole sordid tale at thejazzsession.com.

Kat Edmonson is my guest this week. She lives in Austin, TX, but she's making two rare East Coast appearances this week. She's at Sculler's in Boston on Tuesday (11/10) and at The Jazz Standard in New York on Wednesday (11/11). Don't miss her.

This week on the show: Kat Edmonson (TJS #107, Monday), the Dan Loomis Quartet (TJS #108, Wednesday) and Roger Lewis of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band (TJS #109, Friday).

Next week: John Goldsby (TJS #110, Monday), Hermon Mehari of the band Diverse (TJS #111, Wednesday) and Martin Urbach (TJS #112, Friday).

Peace, love and jazz,

Jason

This week on *The Jazz Session*:



TJS #107: Kat Edmonson. Kat Edmonson is making a name for herself as both a smart interpreter of popular songs (both old and new) and as a musician who puts her values into practice in her art. Edmonson's debut CD, *Take To The Sky* (Convivium Records, 2009) features creative reworkings of tunes by Carol King, The Cure and The

Cardigans, alongside (un)expected versions of Cole Porter, George Gershwin and Henry Mancini. In this interview, Edmonson talks about her years of apprenticeship in Austin, TX; how she's navigating the line between jazz and pop music; and how she turned a quotation from Gandhi into a hit YouTube video. **NOTE:** Edmonson is making two rare East Coast appearances this week: at Sculler's in Boston on Tuesday (11/10) and at The Jazz Standard in New York on Wednesday (11/11). **SHOW AVAILABLE NOW. LISTEN**



TJS #108: The Dan Loomis Quartet.

Bassist Dan Loomis has assembled a new quartet featuring trumpeter Eli Asher, drummer Jared Schonig and saxophonist Robin Verheyen. The quartet performed recently at a jazz festival in Albany, NY and recorded this conversation backstage after the show. It's a wide-ranging conversation that delves deeply into all

four musicians' thoughts on playing and listening to music. **SHOW AVAILABLE STARTING 11/11/09.**



TJS #109: Roger Lewis of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band. Saxophonist Roger Lewis is a founding member of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, one of the premier exponents of the music of New Orleans. In the 30+ years since the band was founded, Lewis and his bandmates have performed with blues, soul, rock and pop musicians, all while creating an

unmistakable and inimitable sound. **SHOW AVAILABLE STARTING 11/13/09.**