

Joel Yennior, *Musician / Educator*

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EDUCATION

New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, MA
Master of Music in Music Education, *distinction in performance*, 1997

University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL
Bachelor of Music in Trombone Performance, *cum laude*, 1995

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Brandeis University, Department of Music, Waltham, MA, 2019-present

- Visiting Instructor, Trombone

New England Conservatory of Music, Division of Preparatory and Continuing Education, Boston, MA, 1999-present

- Teach Jazz Theory, Jazz History, Jazz Arranging, Jazz Composition and Ear Training courses, private trombone, trumpet and arranging
- Direct jazz and brass ensembles
- Arrange and compose music for ensembles, accompany groups on trombone and bass

Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, MA, 2006-2007

- Taught Brass Methods Course to Music Education majors
- Conducted private lessons to Trombone Performance majors

New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, MA, 2003-2004

- Faculty, Contemporary Improvisation Department
- Ensemble Director – *Memphis Ensemble*

Instrumental Music Teacher, Westwood Public Schools, MA, 2011-present

- Conduct Instrumental Music Lessons and Ensembles
- Massachusetts Teacher Licensure (K-12 Music), Professional Licensure

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Prodigy Program Coordinator, Westwood Public Schools, MA, 2017-present

- Coordinate after-school music lesson program for approximately 350 students
- Manage a staff of 27 professional musician/ teachers
- Perform all administrative aspects of the program, including student recruitment, class/lesson registration and accounting, hiring new staff, processing payroll, and scheduling

PUBLICATIONS

Spotlight on Slide Hampton: 11 Solo Transcriptions with Analysis and Exercises for Additional Practice. Brass Wheel Music, 2010

The Real Jazz Method, Building Blocks of the Jazz Vocabulary. 81-page E-Book and Online Course, 2015. Previously available at www.learnjazzfaster.com

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL ARTICLES

Awakening Joy Through Jazz Studies, Huffington Post, November, 2016

Developing Musicianship Through Transcription, Massachusetts Music News (MMEA), Summer 2015

Stepping Into Your Arranging Shoes: Basic Writing Techniques for Student Jazz Combo, Massachusetts Music News (MMEA), Winter 2015

Fostering Listening Skills in the Digital Era, Massachusetts Music News (MMEA), Summer 2014

Ran Blake and the "Primacy of the Ear," Massachusetts Music News (MMEA), Winter 2012

Jazz as an Educational "Superfood" : Reconfirming the Intrinsic Value of Jazz In Education, Massachusetts Music News (MMEA), Summer 2012

"The Trombone in Ethiopian Music," International Trombone Association Journal, October 2004

SELECTED CLINICS AND WORKSHOPS

Past Topics (selected list):

- Guest Artist, Trombone and Compositions / Arrangements
- Improvisation Topics
- Trombone Section Coaching
- Jazz Rehearsal Techniques (for educators)
- Jazz Appreciation and Listening Skills
- Ethiopian Music

Universities

- UMASS Amherst, MA
- Lasell University, MA
- Keene State University, Keene, VT
- University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
- Penn State University, State College, PA
- West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV
- Lawrence University, Appleton, WI
- Black Hawk College, Moline, IL
- Webster University, St. Louis, MO

High Schools

- Ames High School, Ames, IA
- Pentucket Regional High School, MA
- Newton North High School, MA
- Westwood High School, MA
- Marshfield High School, MA
- Blackstone-Millville Regional High School, MA

International

- Yared Music School, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- National Theater, Kampala, Uganda
- Yaroslavl City Jazz Center, Yaroslavl, Russia

Conferences

- Massachusetts Music Educators' Association Conference

SELECTED PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Concerts, United States

Clubs

- Regattabar, Cambridge, MA
- Scullers, Boston, MA
- Ryles, Cambridge, MA
- House of Blues, Cambridge/Boston, MA
- Knitting Factory, New York, NY
- Tonic, New York, NY
- The Jazz Standard, New York, NY
- The Jazz Gallery, New York, NY
- Deer Head Inn, Delaware Water Gap, PA
- Ortelib's Jazz Haus, Philadelphia, PA
- World Café Live, Philadelphia, PA
- The Green Mill, Chicago, IL
- Maintenance Shop, Ames, IA
- Jazz Bakery, Los Angeles, CA

Concert Halls

- Jordan Hall, Boston, MA
- Berklee Performance Center, Boston, MA
- Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- Olin Arts Center, Bates College, Lewiston, ME
- Flynn Theater, Burlington, VT

Art Galleries

- Painted Bride Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- Zeitgeist Gallery, Cambridge, MA

Concerts, International

Clubs

- Av@ngard, Yaroslavl, Russia
- Le Scimmie, Milano, Italy
- La Palma, Roma, Italy
- Bitches Brew, San Benedetto del Tronto, Italy
- Travers, Brussels, Belgium
- Jazztone, Lorrach, Germany
- Cargo, London, UK
- Sanja Jazz, San Paulo, Brazil

Concert Halls

- Barbican Theatre, London, UK
- National Theater, Kampala, Uganda
- Dobrynin Cultural Center, Yaroslavl, Russia
- Teatro Goldoni Musica, Bagnacavallo, Italy

Music Schools/Community Centers

- Yared Music School, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- City Jazz Center, Yaroslavl, Russia
- Circolo degli Artisti, Faenza, Italy

Music Festivals

Domestic

- Lincoln Center's Summer for the City, New York, NY
- Chicago Jazz Festival, Chicago, IL
- Festival of Cultural Exchange, Portland, ME
- 29th Annual IAJE Conference, Long Beach, CA
- Cambridge River Festival, Cambridge, MA
- Boston Globe Jazz Festival, Boston, MA
- Central Pennsylvania Mellon Jazz Festival, Harrisburg, PA

International

- Glastonbury Music Festival, Pilton, Somerset, England
- Ethiopian International Music Festival, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Festival of Dance and Music on the Volga, Yaroslavl, Russia
- Ancona Jazz Festival, Ancona, Italy
- Guimaraes Jazz Festival, Guimaraes, Portugal

RADIO AND TELEVISION APPEARANCES

- BBC, Worldwide with Gilles Peterson, London, UK
- WNYC, New Sounds Live, New York, NY
- WGBH, Eric in the Evening, Boston, MA
- WGBH, Jazz from Studio Four, Boston, MA
- WERS, Jazz Oasis, Boston, MA
- WMBR, Eavesdrop, Cambridge, MA
- Radio Popolare, Milan, Italy
- BET, Live at the Knitting Factory, New York, NY

PERFORMED WITH

Jazz

Either/Orchestra
Medeski, Martin and Wood
Ran Blake
Bevan Manson/John McNeil Group
George Garzone
Jerry Bergonzi
Jaleel Shaw
Miguel Zenon
Antonio Sanchez
Dafnis Prieto
Bennie Maupin
John Tchicai
Felipe Salles Group
Matt Wilson
Charlie Kohlhasé's Explorer's Club
Nando Michelin

Commercial/Pop/Rock

The Spinners
Robert Goulet
Juliana Hatfield
Willie "Loco" Alexander

"World" Music

Mulatu Astatke
Mahmoud Ahmed

Orchestral/Classical

New Amsterdam Symphony, NYC
Miami Symphony Orchestra
Boston Brass Quintet – Brass All Stars

Off-Broadway Productions

"Hello Dolly" featuring Carol Channing
"Damn Yankees" featuring Jerry Lewis

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Editor, Massachusetts Music News Magazine, Contemporary Music Column, 2012-2016

Website Administrator and Newsletter Chairman, Mass. Assoc. for Jazz Education (MAJE), 2012-2015

SELECTED AWARDS AND GRANTS

“Rising Star” on Trombone, Downbeat Magazine Critics Poll, 2013 and 2014
“Talent Deserving Wider Recognition, Big Band,” Downbeat Magazine Critics Poll (with
the Either/Orchestra)
Arts International Grant with the Either/Orchestra
International Association of Jazz Educators “Award for Service to Jazz Education”
First Prize, Robert Ayasse Memorial Composition Contest (IAJE), 1996

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Association for Music Education (NAFME)
Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA)
International Trombone Association (ITA)
Massachusetts Association for Jazz Education (MAJE)

RECORDINGS (As Soloist)

Bob Nieske Sextet, “8 Pieces for Sextet,” Francesca Records, 2022
(Featuring Jerry Bergonzi, Phil Grenadier, Sheryl Bailey and Austin McMahon)

The Joel Yennior Trio, “Big City Circus,” Brass Wheel Music, 2010
(Featuring Gary Fieldman and Eric Hofbauer)

Mulatu Astatke, “Mulatu Steps Ahead,” Strut Records, 2010
(Featured Soloist and Horn Arrangements)

Mulatu Astatke, “Timeless – The Arranger/Composers Series (DVD),” Mochilla
Productions, 2010 *(Featured Soloist and Musical Director. With Bennie Maupin,
Azar Lawrence, Phil Ranelin, Munyungo Jackson, and others)*

Mulatu Astatke and the Heliocentrics, “Inspiration Information 3,” Strut Records, 2009
(Trombone and Horn Arrangements)

Alejandro Cimadoro Quintet, “The Princess and the Moonlight,” Golden Top
Records, 2004 *(with George Garzone, Antonio Sanchez, and Nando Michelin)*

Either/Orchestra, “Mood Music for Time Travelers,” Accurate Records, 2010
(Featuring two original compositions by Joel Yennior)

Either/Orchestra with Mahmoud Ahmed, “Ethiogroove (DVD),” Buda Musique, 2007
(Recorded at the 2006 Banlieues Bleues Festival, Paris, France)

Either/Orchestra, “Live in Addis Ababa,” Buda Musique, 2005
(Featuring several notable Ethiopian musicians)

Either/Orchestra, “Afro-Cubism,” Accurate Records, 2002
(with Greg Burk, Jeremy Udden, Charlie Kohlase)

Either/Orchestra, “Neo-Modernism,” Accurate Records, 2002

Either/Orchestra, “More Beautiful than Death,” Accurate Records, 2000
(with Miguel Zenon, Jaleel Shaw)

Felipe Salles Interconnections Ensemble, “The Lullaby Project,” Tapestry Records, 2018

- Felipe Salles Quintet, "Mind Motions," Fresh Sound Records, 2003
- Felipe Salles Group, "South American Suite," Curare Records, 2008
- Felipe Salles Quintet, "Further South," Fresh Sound Records, 2002
(with Bob Moses, John Lockwood and Alain Mallet)
- Gypsy Schaeffer, "New Album," PeaceTime Records, 2009
(10 Best Jazz CDs of 2009, Boston Herald)
- Gypsy Schaeffer, "Portamental," PeaceTime Records, 2006
(10 Best Jazz CDs of 2007, Boston Phoenix)
- Gypsy Schaeffer, "Gypsy Schaeffer," PeaceTime Records, 2003
(Top 5 Jazz CDs of 2003-2004, Ipirotikos Agon Newspaper, Greece)
- Ed Harlow, "The Gringo Kings," Fresh Vinyl Records, 2017
(with Keala Kaumeneiwa, Maxim Lubarsky, Rick Stone and Garret Savluk)
- Dave "Knife" Fabris (Featuring Ran Blake), "Lettuce Prey," Great Winds Records, 2015
- Tony Lujan, "Tribute," Bella Records, 2004
(Arranged and Performed on "Sheba," by Clark Terry with String Section. Featuring Conrad Herwig, Miguel Zenon, Yosvanny Terry, Edsel Gomez, John Benitez, Richie Flores and Dafnis Prieto)
- Paulo Danay, "Oceans and Skies," PDY Music, 1997
(with Bob Moses and Jeff Galindo)

SELECTED REVIEWS

"the eloquent trombonist, Joel Yennior"
-Ben Ratliff, New York Times

"Every jazz musician who transcends passing music fashions has a 'signature sound.' Duke Ellington told me, 'A musician's sound is his soul.' Trombonist Joel Yennior's Big City Circus is 'soul music' – beyond categories. This is a recording that will reverberate in listener's autobiographies long after the music stops."

-Nat Hentoff, Renowned Author and NEA Jazz Master

"Joel Yennior is fluid and intelligent on the trombone..."
-Downbeat Magazine

"Who is a revelation is phenomenal trombonist Joel Yennior, of luxurious sound, marked vibrato, and irresistible and overflowing mighty swing."
-Thomas Werner, Diario La Republica (Uruguay)

"There must be few trombonists around who could touch Yennior. His playing is a joy to listen to and he can get notes and gimmicks from the instrument that are surely all his own."

-Mike Cook, Euro Club de Jazz.com

"Yennior, best known for his time in Boston's Either/Orchestra, plays with an eye for melody that constantly steers his solos away from the abrasive; the rhythm is pure hard bop, but inventive."

-Chris Sheridan, Jazz Review Magazine (UK)

"Yennior plays with a confidence beyond his years. His tone is expressive and his flexibility is outstanding."

-International Trombone Association Journal