

ANDREW BISHOP



**SAXOPHONIST**

Andrew Bishop is an active composer and performer in highly diversified musical idioms. His compositions include works for orchestra, band, chamber ensembles, jazz, theater, film, dance, multi-media, electronic mediums, and various popular and folk idioms. Bishop received a Doctor of Musical Arts in composition from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He earned two Master of Music degrees from the University of Michigan (Composition and Improvisation), and two Bachelor of Music degrees from Wichita State University (Theory/ Composition and Saxophone). He is currently an Assistant Professor of Theory, Composition and Jazz at Albion College.

Bishop has received numerous commissions, residencies, performances, recordings, and awards for his compositional efforts. The Albany Symphony Orchestra commissioned Crooning in 1999. He was awarded the ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award for this composition in 2000. Bishop's orchestral work Hank — a symphonic portrait of Hank Williams — was selected for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's First Hearing Program in 1997. He received two commissions from the Dogs of Desire Chamber Orchestra, Rose Colored in 1997 and an orchestral arrangement of Jimi Hendrix's Fire in 1994. Bishop's percussion duo Accents of Eccentricity was recorded by Steve Houghton for Shperc Records in 1995. The Bird of Paradise Orchestra recorded Bishop's arrangements of Matt Wilson's Bingo and Duke Ellington's Paris Blues for BOPO Records. His composition Dance Etiquette is featured in the motion picture Twister. He has also received commissions from the Sotto Voce Trio, the Wichita Jazz Festival, and numerous colleges and universities. Bishop was a composition fellow at the MacDowell Colony in 1999.

As a saxophonist, Bishop has worked with Greg Bendian, Karl Berger, the Bird of Paradise Orchestra, Sandip Burman, Kenny Burrell, Eugene Chadbourne, Ray Charles, Gerald Cleaver's Veil of Names, The Either Orchestra, The Manhattan Transfer, Hank Roberts, Jacob Sacks Quintet, Clark Terry, Matt Wilson, and John Zorn. He leads a variety of his own ensembles, and is a featured performer on over 30 compact discs and recordings.

PETE SIERS



**DRUMS**

Pete earned a degree in Music Education from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he studied under the direction of Dr. Bruce Early and Rupert Kettle. In 1984, Siers joined the John Shea Trio; a piano trio with a legacy of steady work and great players. In 1988, Pete moved to Ann Arbor to work with acclaimed pianist Eddie Russ. Pete's affiliation with Russ paved the way to performances and recordings with many of the great Detroit area jazz musicians. During this period, Pete developed his style by studying privately with Adam Nussbaum, Jeff Hamilton, Tom Rainy and Kenny Werner.

Pete is an original member of the award winning Bird of Paradise Orchestra. Siers is also a member of The Keller/Kocher quartet. Pete also performs and has recorded with Bess Bonnier, Mr. B, guitarist Ray Kamalay and his Red Hot Peppers, The Easy Street Jazz Band, The Motor City Classic Jazz Band, and the Ron Brooks Trio.

In 1993, Siers recorded "Black Butterfly" on Columbia Records with guitarist Russell Malone. With Russell, Pete has played major Jazz Festivals including the JVC, Newport, Sunfest, Playboy Festival, The North Sea Jazz Fest in Holland, and the Istanbul Festival in Turkey. Pete has performed with Lee Konitz, Sonny Fortune, Frank Morgan, Warren Vache, Jay McShann, Frank Foster, Mose Allison, Eddie Daniels, Mulgrew Miller, James Moody, Barry Harris, Doc Cheatham, Sir Roland Hanna and others.

Siers' own projects include: Los Gatos, a Latin jazz quintet featuring the music of Cal Tjader. Los Gatos released their first CD, "Cats Got Your Tongue" in 2001; The Pete Siers Quartet explores creative improvisation; and The Pete Siers Trio. The Trio released recording "Those Who Choose to Swing" in 1999. This is a piano trio format featuring Detroit's Johnny O'Neal on piano with Paul Keller on bass.

PAUL KELLER



**BASS**

Paul Keller received a music education degree from the University of Michigan. He moved into Ann Arbor in 1986 to work with acclaimed pianist Eddie Russ, with whom he recorded three albums featuring some of Keller's original compositions and arrangements.

Today, Paul is one of the busiest jazz bassists in the Detroit area. He is the founder and leader of the Bird of Paradise Orchestra (BOPO) which plays original, obscure and classic big band material from all periods of jazz history.

BOPO has recorded three albums to date: "Hallelujah Train" featuring Boogie Woogie pianist, Mr. B; "project X" released in 1996; and "Bingo" in 1998. Paul is also the co-leader of the popular Keller/Kocher Quartet (KKQ) formed in 1987. KKQ's first recording, "Midnight Sun" was released in 1993. "Pipe and Slippers" was released in 1996.

Paul was a member of the Diana Krall trio for several years and has also performed with Joe Williams, Cab Calloway, Branford Marsalis, Oliver Jones, and Don Thompson. Paul is currently on the faculty of the University of Michigan in the Jazz Studies Program and conducts improvisation clinics and workshops throughout the mid-west.