

WORDS WITHIN MUSIC

DANIEL SCHNYDER / KENNY DREW, JR. / DAVID TAYLOR



Daniel Schnyder, saxophones / Kenny Drew, Jr., piano / David Taylor, bass trombone

Daniel Schnyder is known as a composer/performer with a solid reputation in both jazz and classical fields. He recorded over ten CDs of his own music for Enja Records, Koch Jazz, CCnc, Universal, Arabesque and Red Records. As a performer Daniel toured and recorded with many well known classical musicians, world music artists and jazz artists. His orchestral works and his chamber music compositions are performed in Europe, America and Australia.

Among his credits as a composer are commissions to write compositions for the Vienna Art Orchestra, the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich (4th Symphony, initiated and commissioned by David Zinman), the Opera of Bern, The NDR Orchestra in Hannover, Germany, The Absolute Ensemble under the direction of Kristjan Jaervi and the Milwaukee Symphony under Maestro Andreas Delfs among many others.

He toured Europe and Australia with his trio, featuring David Taylor and Kenny Drew jr., playing music of Gershwin, Bach, Vivaldi, Wagner, Ellington in addition to his own new compositions bridging the world of classical music and jazz.

Daniel Schnyder also frequently performs with his special chamber music project for saxophone and string quartet, combining composition and improvisation.

He arranged albums for Abdullah Ibrahim and Lee Konitz (enja records) and worked with Paquito D’Rivera on his release “Habanera”. In 1997 he was commissioned to write the opening orchestral piece for the official inauguration of the newly built concert hall of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Subsequently the orchestra commissioned Schnyder to write an extended piece for choir and large orchestra called “The Revelation of St. John” that was premiered in 2000/2001. Daniel Schnyder won first prize at the 1996 International Trumpet Guild’s Composition Contest.

He is a composer with Universal Edition Spectrum Series and the composer in residence with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. The Album “Absolution” featuring his Trombone Concerto for David just received a Grammy Nomination 2002.

“I highly recommend this rare mix of high art and high spirits.”
Cadence, USA

“Rich in dynamics, Schnyders music is potent mood- and image-inducing. It is a complete musical statement, the musical equivalent of the quest myth in Western literature.”
Gene Kalbacher, Hot House Jazz Journal, New York

David Taylor appeared with the New York Philharmonic under Pierre Boulez and the American Symphony under Stokowski, Ansermet and Khachaturian. He also played with Steve Reich, the Ensemble for New and Newer Music and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

He recorded and toured with Duke Ellington, Gil Evans, Bob Mintzer, Joe Henderson, the Thad Jones Mel Lewis Big Band, George Russell and popular artists like Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin and the Rolling Stones.

He is the first bass trombonist to be given the Most Valuable Player award by the New York Chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. In 2002 he was featured on five recordings nominated for a Grammy Award.

"...left every brass player in the packed house shaking his head in disbelief."

Chicago Tribune

"Mr Taylor is a terrific player..."

New York Times

Kenny Drew, Jr. started playing the piano at the age of four. Inspired by the work of his father, the great jazz pianist Kenny Drew, he soon branched out into the area of jazz music.

As a leader Kenny recorded over 10 albums, featuring some of the finest jazz musicians of his generation. He also worked as a sideman with Stanley Turrentine, Slide Hampton and the Jazz Masters, Stanley Jordan, Michael Mossman, Steve Grossman, Frank Morgan, the Mingus Big Band and many others.

He has also a solid reputation as a performer of classical music and was invited in 1996 to the Barossa Chamber Music Festival to play the Bach Concertos and new classical music by African-American composers. Kenny Drew Jr. was the winner of the 1990 Great American Jazz Piano Competition.

"Welcome to your dad's league..."

Jazziz

"Kenny Drew is the perfect pianist..."

New York Times

"His abundance of technique and drive, his sensitive keyboard arranging and his imaginative use of the instrument's colors exhibit his salient musical virtues..."

Chicago Reader

The Trio

In 1999 the trio released an album entitled "Words Within Music" on Enja Records / Koch (US) featuring vocal music of Bach, Vivaldi, Gershwin and Wagner and original compositions by Daniel Schnyder.

A 2000 release by the trio on the Koch Jazz label called "Weill meets Jazz / The Berlin-New York Project" features the music of Kurt Weill (Koch Jazz 36969-2).

The trio appeared in Leipzig at the official Bach Festival 2000 and toured Australia in the same year. In the last season the ensemble performed in the Konzerthaus in Wien, the Bregenz Festival and in the New Music Series of the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society in N.Y.C.

Records

"Words Within Music", Enja Records 9369/2

"Weill meets Jazz / The Berlin-New York Project", Koch Jazz Records 3-6969-2