

Media Kit



PHIL WILSON MUSIC

**“Phil Wilson is in town – one of the world’s
great trombonists and jazz educators ”**

Joya Jenson, Sydney Morning Herald, Australia

PHIL WILSON MUSIC

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RESUME

- Phil Wilson, professor, Berklee College of Music
- One of the world's leading jazz trombonists, since his groundbreaking recorded solos with the Woody Herman Band in 1963
- Voted trombonist of the year in 2001 by the International Trombone Association, whose membership numbers in the six thousands worldwide.
- One of the early pioneers of jazz education lecturing, presenting clinics and concerts at universities, colleges, high schools, and industry conventions on five continents since 1965.
- Grammy nominated arranger in 1970 for arrangement of "Mercy, Mercy" by Buddy Rich. This was the last big band hit single to reach the "top forty" listings in the twentieth century.
- Most of the arrangements written for the Buddy Rich band are still selling today, available at Kendor publications since 1975.
- Eighteen recordings under Phil Wilson's leadership
- Nine recordings as soloist/arranger with Woody Herman, all of which are available in 2003, reissued on CDs.
- Arrangements on six Buddy Rich recordings, all of which are available in 2003, reissued on CDs, as well as being published by Kendor.
- Several compositions are staples in college and high school bands throughout the world, most notably "Basically Blues."
- Board of Directors, International Trombone Association, 1972-1976 and 2000-20004. Boston Sackbut Week, 1972-1986
- Soloist at jazz festivals worldwide. Newport, JVC, Boston Globe, Stockholm, Nice, Monterey, Snowbird, Tri-City, Campo du Jordeo (Brazil), Hayfield (England), Leeds (England), S.S. Norway, etc.
- Conductor, soloist, arranger and composer for many of the European radio bands, including Denmark, Hamburg, Frankfurt, and Stockholm. Also the Hannover Radio Symphony Orchestra
- Chairman of Jazz Studies, New England Conservatory, 1974-1976
- Director of summer school music program, Phillips Exeter Academy, 1970-1971 and the Choate School, 1972-1974
- Among the musicians Phil Wilson has personally helped get started in the music industry are: Ernie Watts, Paul Kondziela, Richie Cole, Christian Jacob, Scott Robinson, Mamiko Watanabe, Alisa Miles, Chichiro Yamanaka, and Christine Fawson, along with countless trombone players, from Hal Crook and Tony Lada to Chris Gagne and Chris Dempsey in 2003

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BIOGRAPHY

Phil Wilson has long been one of the world's great jazz trombonists. He made a spectacular entrance into the jazz world with his famous solo on "It's a Lonesome Old Town" with the great Woody Herman Band of the mid sixties. Phil cut nine albums with Woody Herman and, more recently, twelve albums under his own name.

During Mr. Wilson's earlier career, he soloed on The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson, The Today Show, The Steve Allen Show, and The Ed Sullivan Show, to name a few.

As Phil Wilson grew, he played with such luminaries as Louis Armstrong, Buddy Rich, Herbie Hancock, Doc Severinsen, most of the European Radio Orchestras, Frank Sinatra, Clark Terry, The United State Air Force Band, Illinois Jacquet, and Joe Williams, for a sampling.

Wilson enjoys an equal reputation as a composer/arranger. His arrangement of Joe Zawinul's "Mercy, Mercy, Mercy" for Buddy Rich earned Phil a Grammy Award nomination. Wilson wrote for five of Buddy Rich's albums. The Boston Symphony commissioned Phil to write a work for their Children's Series. He conducted The Boston Symphony in ten performances of this work, which since has been played extensively.

Many of Phil Wilson's most famous jazz ensemble charts, including "Mercy, Mercy, Mercy," "Basically Blues," "Lush Life," "Chelsea Bridge," and "Outrageous Mother" are published by Kendor Music, Inc., Delevan, New York. Two of Mr. Wilson's compositions for chamber groups are published by Virgo Music Ltd., Birmingham, England.

Professor Phil Wilson has taught at the Berklee College of Music where he has remained one of the College's principal instructors for twenty two years. He was Chairman of the Afro-American Department at the New England Conservatory for three years. The list of great young musicians world wide, who have been touched by Phil Wilson is incredible. Perhaps this facet of Mr. Wilson's career is best represented by the legendary album he recorded with the brilliant, young pianist Makoto Ozone (Phil Wilson and Makoto Ozone Live at The Berklee Performance Center—Shiah 113).

As one of America's leading jazz educators, Mr. Wilson appears all over the world giving concerts, clinics, and lectures to musicians of all ages.

Phil Wilson plays a YAMAHA trombone. Be sure to catch Phil Wilson in action. You will enjoy him.

SELECTED DISCOGRAHY

"Swingin' New Big Band" Buddy Rich
Pacific Jazz ST-20113

"Mercy Mercy" World Pacific Jazz ST-20133

"A Different Drummer" Buddy Rich RCA LSP 4593

"The Sound of the Wasp" Phil Wilson and Rich Matteson ASI-203

"Getting It All Together" Phil Wilson
Outrageous Records 001

"Phil and Vic" Phil Wilson and Vic Dickinson
Famous Door HL133

"Live and Cookin'" Phil Wilson Big Band
Outrageous Records 002

"Groovy" Phil Wilson, Rich Matteson, Jack Peterson
Four Leaf FLC 5060

"Phil Wilson and Makoto Ozone Live at Berkeley"
Shiah 113

"Live at Chan's" Rebecca Paris and Phil Wilson
Weston BEC-2

"Bridging the Gap" Roy Williams and Phil Wilson
YJON YJ-001

PHIL WILSON MUSIC

PERFORMANCES

PROFESSIONAL VENUES

(dates included when available)

- Boston Globe Jazz Festival
- New York Brass Conference
- Boston Sackbut Week, 1972-1985
- Berklee High School Festival
- Six week U.S.I.S. tour of Latin America and the Caribbean Islands, 1985
- Floating Jazz Festival, S.S. Norway, 1985
- Vineyard Vibes, part of Martha's Vineyard Jazz Festival, 2001, 2002
- Boston Symphony Children's Series, 1972, 1980
- Juan-les-Pins Jazz Festival, France, 1998
- Tri-City Jazz Festival, Cleveland, OH 2001
- MENC Convention, Pittsburg, PA, 2001
- Woody Herman Tribute, Hollywood, CA, 2002
- San Jose Jazz Festival, San Jose, CA, 2003
- JVC Jazz Festival, NYC, 2004

HIGH SCHOOLS

Belmont, Lexington, Middlesex School, Roxbury, Roxbury Latin School, and Westwood, Massachusetts; East Greenwich and Westerly, Rhode Island; Derryfield School and Philips Exeter Academy, New Hampshire; Putnam, Connecticut; and Rosemont, Pennsylvania

COLLEGES

- Harvard and Simmons College

TELEVISION

- Channel 2, Holiday Show, 1967
- Channel 4, The Today Show, 1983
- Channel 5, Sunday Open House; Good Morning New England (two appearances)
- Channel 56, Holiday Show, 1984, Caribbean Show, 1988

- Dominican Republic TV, 1985
- PBS, Woody Herman Tribute, 2004

RECORDINGS

- Jazz Beat from Berklee, Vol. 1, 1981, International Dues Band
- Jazz Beat from Berklee, Vol. 2, 1983, International Dues Band
- Latin American Tour, Shiah Label, 1985, Rainbow Band
- The International Dues Band Reunion, 1995
- "Who Knows," The Music of Manuel Perovic, 1999, Berklee Rainbow All Stars

PARTIAL LIST OF INDUSTRY MUSICIANS

Art Barron, Victor Brazil, Sam Burtis, Terri Lyne Carrington, Cyrus Chestnut, Anat Cohen, Joe Cohn, Mike Crotty, Daniel Day, Christine Fawson, Cyril Gerstein, Bot Gillotti, Roy Hargrove, Chip Jackson, Paul Kondziela, Abraham Laboriel, Sr., Abraham Laboriel, Jr., Cedric Lawson, Harvey Mason, Bill McFarlin, Alisa Miles, Rob Mounsey, Greg Osby, Keithe O'Quinn, Makoto Ozone, Danilo Perez, Scott Robinson, Claudio Roditi, Pernell Saturnina, John Scofield, Kenderick Scott, Daniela Schachter, Nicolas Sorin, Red Summers, Yoshi Waki, Mamiko Watanabe, Ernie Watts, Dennis Wilson, Warren Wolfe, Marshall Wood, Chichiro Yamanaka, Megumi Yonezawa

PARTIAL LIST OF CURRENT FACULTY

Rich Appleman, Walter Beasley, Hal Crook, Winnie Dahlgren, Jetro DaSilva, Ben Elkins, Christine Fawson, Scott deOgburn, George Garzone, Tony Germain, Dino Govoni, Jamie Haddad, George Hargon, Kari Harris, Jimmy Kachulis, Mirek Kocankrle, Tony Lada, John Lockwood, Francisco Mela, Wayne Naus, Barrie Nettles Bruce Nifong, Tiger Okoshi, Danilo Perez, Bill Pierce, John Pierce, Bob Pilkington, Ron Reid, Adrian Ross, Ron Savage, Bob Tamagni, Michael Williams

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PERFORMANCES CONTINUED

Partial List of high school students who, after participating in the Grammy Band Program (1994-1997), entered Berklee full time and graduated:

Ryan Carnieau, Pete Cole, Brendt Irvine, Matt Maley, Andrew Packard, Leon Silva, Peter Stolzman, Kevin Williams.

R.J. Avalone, Jason Miele, and Mike Tucker remain in the undergraduate program.

THE INTERNATIONAL DUES BAND/RAINBOW BAND

FOUR DECADES OF ONE OF BERKLEE'S PREMIER ENSEMBLES

"The Dues Band" was formed in 1965 in an effort to provide gifted students an opportunity to develop their skills to the highest possible level by challenging them in ways that went beyond the typical classroom and student experience.

The band evolved over the years, in name, ethnic diversity, and goals. Always, though, the overarching goal was to enhance and develop the talents of those students in the band.

FROM 1965 TO 1977, the band was called "The Dues Band," in an attempt to underscore the idea that a student's college experience is in preparation for the "dues" that must be paid in the world beyond college.

FROM 1977 TO 1985, the band went by the name "The International Dues Band." The name change was an attempt to focus attention on the growing international makeup of both the college and the band.

SINCE 1985, the band has gone by the name "The Rainbow All Stars." When the band's allotted rehearsal time was split [in half?], it allowed the members to create a smaller ensemble that showcases some of the strongest talents in the band.

IN 1987, the band changed its name for three years to the "Caribbean Ensemble" and focused on showcasing many of the talented students from Latin America and

the Islands. Until 1990, this ensemble helped popularize the cafeteria shows, while also drawing attention to the Latin/African cultural influences in our industry.

Prominent Berklee alumni who emerged from the Rainbow Band experiences include: Cyrus Chestnut, '85, Roy Hargrove, '89, Terri Lyne Carrington, '83, Makoto Ozone, '83, Ernie Watts, '66, John Scofield, '73, Bill Pierce, '73, Abe Laboriel Jr., '93, Abe Laboriel Sr., '72, Joe Cohn, '90, Richie Cole, '67, Hal Crook, '71, Marty Richards, '86, Christopher Hollyday, '96, Tony Lada, '72, Tiger Okoshi, '75, Marshall Wood, '83, Art Barron, '78, Darren Barrett, '90, Dino Govoni, '83, George Garzone, '72, Rob Mounsey, '75, Claudio Roditi, '70, Greg Abate, '68, Carol Chaikin, '80, Danilo Perez, '88, Mike Crotty, '72, Scott Robinson, '81, Keith O'Quinn, '73, Anat Cohen, '98, Kari Harris, '00, Chichiro Yamanaka, '00, Christine Fawson, '02, Alisa Miles, '02, Daniela Schachter, '02, Kendrick Scott, '03, Mark Kelley, '03, Mamiko Watanabe, '03, Manhattan Transfer arranger Dennis Wilson, '74

Some of the highlights of the "Dues and Rainbow Band" play dates over the years:

1965 Thursday Night Dues Band, Harvard University

1966 Thursday Night Dues Band, Roxbury Latin School; Phillips Exeter Academy

1967 Thursday Night Dues Band, Christmas Show, WGBH-TV, "A Christmas Suite"

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THE INTERNATIONAL DUES BAND/RAINBOW BAND

Thursday Night Dues Band, First Annual Holiday Concert, New England Life Hall

Thursday Night Dues Band, first annual end-of-semester concert, which continues to this day at the end of each semester

1968 Thursday Night Dues Band, series of high school concerts, including Westbrook, Maine and Westerly, Rhode Island

Thursday Night Dues Band, Boston Globe Jazz Festival

Thursday Night Dues Band, Northeastern University

Thursday Night Dues Band, first annual Berklee High School Jazz Festival (Phil's bands have performed at over ten of these since its inception, including 2004.)

1969 Thursday Night Dues Band, concert for the synthesizer company Condor Co. (Singer, Inc.) in New England Life Hall. Concert was so successful that it generated a full-page ad in Downbeat Magazine (paid for by Condor) with a photo of the band.

1971 Thursday Night Dues Band, Winthrop High School (band at that time included George Garzone, Bob Gullotti, John Lockwood, Dennis Wilson, Keith O'Quinn)

1972 Thursday Night Dues Band, Boston Globe Jazz Festival

Thursday Night Dues Band, Putnam, CT High School

Thursday Night Dues Band annual end-of-semester concerts outgrow New England Life Hall and move to John Hancock Hall for two years.

Thursday Night Dues Band with Boston Symphony Orchestra - Youth Concerts at Symphony Hall: Wilson's piece "The Earth's Children."

1973 International Dues Band and Berklee Trombone Choir - first of fourteen years playing at annual Boston Sackbut Week (the event was imitated all over the country).

1977 Berklee Trombone Choir (96 trombones) play for Red Sox opening day at Fenway Park.

1979 International Dues Band, WLVI-TV56, Christmas Show

International Dues Band, WCVB-TV5 "The Good Morning Show"

1980 International Dues Band and members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra - (invited back) Youth Concerts at Symphony Hall - "The Earth's Children"

Berklee Trombone Choir (96 trombones) plays for Red Sox opening day at Fenway Park. (Harry Ellis Dickson conducting)

1981 Berklee Trombone Choir with Lionel Hampton, 10th Boston Globe Jazz Festival at Faneuil Hall

1982 International Dues Band, Boston Globe Jazz and Blues Festival (band includes

Makoto Ozone, Marshall Wood, Scott Robinson, and Terri Lyne Carrington)

International Dues Band, WCVB-TV5 "The Good Morning Show"

1983 International Dues Band with Terri Lyne Carrington, NCB's The Today Show

1985 Berklee Rainbow Band (first year of name change) Latin America and Caribbean tour, 6 weeks for the United States Information Service: Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Caribbean Islands. (Band includes Cyrus Chestnut and Marty Richards)

1986 Berklee Rainbow Band (band includes Danilo Perez), Emmanuel Church, Newbury Street, Boston, Easter service

Berklee Rainbow Band, Tabor Academy (Marion, MA) and Middlesex School (Concord, MA)

1987 Berklee Rainbow Band, New York Brass Conference

1990 Berklee Rainbow Band (Caribbean band) (includes Roay Hargrove and Abe Laboriel, Jr.). Caribbean show on WLVI-TV56 (Caribbean band raised awareness of cafeteria shows.)

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THE INTERNATIONAL DUES BAND/RAINBOW BAND

Berklee Rainbow Band, Derryfield School, Manchester, NH

1991 Berklee Rainbow Band (Caribbean band), BIN Summit

Berklee Rainbow Band (Caribbean band), New York Brass Conference

1992 Berklee Rainbow Band (Caribbean band, run by Ron Reid), Simmons College; also cafeteria shows

1994 Berklee Rainbow Band starts annual end-of-summer concerts, bringing total end-of semester concerts at the college to three per year.

Berklee Rainbow Band, New York Brass Conference

1995 International Dues Band Reunion Concert, December 9, 1995 (Mayor Menino declared that day Phil Wilson Day).

1995-6 Berklee Rainbow Band, Belmont, MA.

1997 Berklee Rainbow Band with Victor Mendoza, Tribute to Tito Puente (Part of Percussion Week)

1998 Berklee Rainbow Band (Kari Harris, Chichiro Yamanaka) New York Brass Conference

Berklee Rainbow Band, Juan-les Pins Jazz Festival in the south of France

1999 Berklee Rainbow Band with Terri Lyne Carrington and Cindy Blackman (Part of Percussion Week)

Berklee Rainbow All-Stars, WindDay (every one since they started)

2001 Berklee Rainbow Band with Jazz Ambassadors of the U.S. Army Field Band at BPC

Berklee Rainbow All-Stars (Christine Fawson, Alisa Miles) first Vineyard Vibes concert on Martha's Vineyard

Berklee Rainbow Band, Eastern MENC Convention, Pittsburgh, PA

Berklee Rainbow Band, Tri-C Jazz Festival, Cleveland, OH

2002 Berklee Rainbow Band, Langhorne (PA) High School Jazz Festival

Berklee Rainbow Band, Woody Herman Tribute Concert, "Autumn Eve," at the Hollywood Bowl (to be rebroadcast on PBS in April 2004)

Berklee Rainbow Band, The Odeum Theatre (Greenwich, RI) for the DeJoy Scholarship Fund

Berklee Rainbow All-Stars (Christine Fawson), Second Annual Vineyard Vibes Concert on Martha's Vineyard

Berklee Rainbow Band, IAJE, Long Beach, CA

Berklee Rainbow Band, Oceanside Jazz Festival, Winthrop, MA

2003 Berklee Rainbow Band (with Syncopation), The Boston Globe Jazz and Blues Festival

Berklee Rainbow Band (with Christine Fawson), The San Jose Jazz Festival

Berklee Rainbow Band All-Stars (with Syncopation), Watertown Summer Festival

Berklee Rainbow All-Stars (with Christine Fawson), Swingin' at Mothers Rest, the Fens

2004 Berklee Rainbow Band All-Stars (with Christine Fawson), scheduled to play JVC Jazz Festival in June (New York City)

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QUOTES

"Phil Wilson embraces more fields of jazz than anyone I have ever met. To the listener he is an exciting giant of the trombone: to the trombonist he seems to have achieved the impossible with his abilities: to his students at Berkeley, he is a gifted teacher able to communicate enthusiasm and skills with an easy coherence; to a writer like myself he is all these things and also a source of jazz history. The jazz tradition is constantly in his mind, even when he's pushing forward the frontiers of jazz with some of the most constantly enquiring and restless experimenting you'll find. He said to me that trombonist Albert Mangelsdorff represented the state of the art today. I suggest to you that Phil Wilson represents the state of the art for all time."

Steve Voce, Jazz Journal International, England"Phil Wilson—one of the greatest finds Woody (Herman) has ever made."

Len Dobbin, Coda Magazine

"Phil Wilson is the most irrepressibly enthusiastic human being I know. His love of life is evident in everything he says and does, including the music he plays on his trombone.

It is no surprise then, that this recording (Phil Wilson and Makoto Ozone, Live, at the Berklee Performance Center) is a friendly and happy affair. It is, in fact, one of the finest trombone performances I've ever heard. It is technically marvelous, but it's not merely a showcase for Phil's prodigious chops. It's also a sensitive and highly musical display sure to satisfy those romantic, nay hip impulses in all of us."

Don Bacon, Boston Ledger

"Phil Wilson is a remarkable trombonist who seems to have picked up where Bill Harris left off, as he slides lazily through his lines, smoothly, gruffly, with staccato asides and glancing touches of humor."

John S. Wilson, High Fidelity Magazine

"There are musicians that seem to play with such ease that to call it work would be to understate their talents and ability. Phil Wilson happens to be this type of performer. A total musician whose approach is far ranging, his playing is a combination of musical knowledge, awareness, blended with humor, creative improvisation and a great appreciation for the blues.

The excitement and vitality that characterize the true Wilson talent and personality is not from his trombone alone. He is also most effective with his second instrument, the orchestra. He is a composer and arranger of ever growing stature."

Al Julian, Nightfall, Boston

"A master of his instrument with range and facility that is phenomenal, Wilson can pop out double Bb's as easily as popping gum yet he uses his technique not to show off but to create expressive and meaningful solos.

One technique that Wilson has mastered is that of multiphonics—the playing of one tone while humming another. If done properly, the combination of overtones produces a triad—a three-note chord.

Use of a large bore tenor trombone and a large mouthpiece gives him a deep, rich sound."

Andrew Foertsch, Tampa Bay Jazz Society

"Phil Wilson—the name is synonymous with the best in jazz trombone performance. You get the impression that you are listening to a consummate master at the top of his craft, and loving every minute of it. Phil has the ability to express what ever he likes through the trombone, and this man has some of the neatest jazz ideas you'll ever want to hear."

Stan Pethe, International Trombone Association Journal

"His virtuosity never became an end in itself and the music he played was swinging and imaginative, with, in almost every chorus, an outstanding musical idea."

Dave Batchelor, Glasgow (Scotland) Herald

"Wilson is one of the few trombonists to add to the instrument's vocabulary over the past 20 years."

Peter Landsdowne, Jazz Fest New England

"Phil Wilson—an exceptional trombone player."

Ralph J. Gleason, San Francisco Chronicle

"Wilson, a long established master of the horn."

Leonard Feather, Los Angeles Times

"Phil Wilson lived up to his reputation as one of the world's finest trombone players when he last Saturday with is technically brilliant and musically perfected playing overwhelmed the great audience who had

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QUOTES CONTINUED

come to Helsingborg's Jazz Cafe for a musical event.

Phil gave a completely breath-taking trombone artistry. The tunes were given boundless dimensions by his enormous musical and technical abilities.

From the hardmastered pedal tone register he swang with elegant ease up to the stratosphere where otherwise only trumpet players with utterly good embouchure can reach, he impressed with violently fast and well articulated runs, slid over into beautiful, relaxed phrasings in pianissimo a capella.

Phil Wilson proved his greatness as instrumentalist without for one instant neglecting the musical values in favour of his technical artistry."

Bengt Peterson, Helsingborgs Dagblad (Daily), Sweden

"Phil Wilson's daring trombone solos impress both in terms of conception and execution."

Stanley Dance, Saturday Review

"Phil just has to be one of the most inventive and creative players on the contemporary music scene."

Bill Spilka, International Trombone Association Journal

"Ah, but Wilson is the spice, a man who covers the whole history of his instrument and has a great time doing it. He's a monster."

Owen Cordle, Down Beat

"Phil Wilson is one of those charismatic educators who has left a lasting impact on young musicians all over the world. His trombone and his mile wide grin are all the I.D. this long-distance traveler for jazz ever needs."

Ernie Santosuosso, Boston Globe

"As with most projects, Phil imbeds himself deeply and you can depend on well-honed professionalism and zest in music."

Dr. Herb Wong, liner notes Live and Cookin'

"Wilson, the most amazing trombonist to hit since J.J. Johnson."

Russ Wilson, Oakland Tribune

"Phil Wilson is in town—one of the world's great trombonists and jazz educators."

Joya Jenson, Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

"Wow!"

Australian Trombone Association Journal

"Phil Wilson. . . .Astonishing."

Marge Hofacre, No Name Jazzletter, Clearwater Beach, FL

"There are musicians that seem to play with such ease that to call it work would be to understate their talents and ability. Phil Wilson happens to be this type of performer. A total musician whose approach is far ranging, his playing is a combination of musical knowledge, awareness, blended with humor, creative improvisation and a great appreciation for the blues.

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