

Nathan Eklund Group



The Nathan Eklund Group is a distinct jazz combo that released their first album, "The View From Afar," in 2006. Their second album, "The Crooked Line", was released January 23, 2007 through the Jazz Excursion Records label. The repertoire of the group is based on Eklund's original music and his unique arrangements of other's material. Although there is form and structure to every composition, the music is intended to give a great deal of interpretive responsibility and freedom to each member of the group. Through this approach, each of Eklund's works become a group arrangement, utilizing the creative energy and talents of the entire group.

Nathan Eklund-trumpet and flugelhorn

Craig Yaremko-saxophones

Joe Elefante-piano

Brian Killeen-bass

Josh Dion-drums

For more information and sound clips of the group, please visit:

www.nathaneklund.com/NEG.html

Nathan Eklund

about the artist

Nathan Eklund is quickly establishing himself inside New York City's upper echelon of jazz trumpeters. His meticulous attention to detail allows him to adapt to any musical situation, making him in high demand as a performer, composer, arranger, engineer, and teacher.

Nathan began his serious musical training at Central Washington University, where he studied classical trumpet performance under the direction of Thomas Gause, while performing with many classical and jazz ensembles. In 1998, Nathan moved to the New York City area to study jazz at William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ. He attained his Bachelor's degree from WPU and his Master's degree from New Jersey City University, while studying with NYC area professionals Dave Rogers, Scott Wendholt, Joe Magnarelli, Bud Burrige, Rich DeRosa, John Mosca, Paul Meyers, and Andy Eulau. He was selected to play lead trumpet in the 2005 New Jersey All-State Collegiate Big Band.

Professionally, Nathan leads his own quintet, the **Nathan Eklund Group**, as well as co-leading the group **We Three**. Nathan also performs with the Bud Maltin Orchestra, playing for receptions and private events in and around New York City. He is also involved in many musical projects, including **Richie Cole's Alto Madness Orchestra**, **Jive Tower**, **Quintessence**, and **Cecil's Big Band**. (West Orange, NJ) Nathan has performed with Joe Lovano, Scott Wendholt, Joe Magnarelli, Claudio Roditi, Don Friedman, Jack Walrath, Tim Horner, The Newyorkestra, Frankie Valli, Kermit Driscoll, and Chuck Loeb. He recorded for **Spyro Gyra's** 2006 Grammy nominated album "Wrapped In A Dream", as well as recordings for Richie Cole, Chuck Loeb, Gerald Veasley, Craig Yaremko, Annemarie Russell, Jive Tower, Rick Fontaine, Russell Wolff, Cate', and The Hoppin' Haole Brothers. Nathan has also performed at the New York City clubs Birdland, The Blue Note, The Jazz Standard, Smoke, Cornelia Street Café, and La Lanterna.

Along with his accomplishments as a performer, Nathan has made a commitment to furthering the development of music through his teaching. Since early 2001, Nathan has been a private trumpet instructor, teaching throughout New Jersey, and he is currently an adjunct faculty member at New Jersey City University in Jersey City, NJ. Nathan taught at William Paterson University's summer jazz camp in 2006. In February of 2002, Nathan presented a clinic on Jazz Brass Articulations at the New Jersey MENC conference.

Nathan Eklund has demonstrated his versatility as a multifaceted musician. His musical prowess reveals an incredible dedication to the art of jazz, a keen observation of musical technique, and a desire to settle at nothing less than excellence.

Josh Dion (drums, www.joshdion.com) moved to the NYC area in 1998, studying at William Paterson University with Rich DeRosa and Bill Goodwin. He is currently involved in leading a pop project under his own name, The Josh Dion Band, which features his original compositions, vocals and drumming. Dion also works extensively with guitarist Chuck Loeb, and has recorded with many groups, including Spyro Gyra, Loeb, ulu, and Ahab Seamus. He currently endorses Yamaha Drums, Ziljian cymbals, Vic Firth sticks and Remo heads. Along with Loeb, Dion has performed with Will Lee, James Genus, Jason Miles, Bob James, Randy Brecker, Bill Evans, Edgar Winter, Kim Waters and Jeff Kashiwa.

Joe Elefante (piano, www.joeelefante.com) is a multitalented musician who plays piano, saxophone, sings, arranges, and composes. Elefante directed Cecil's Big Band for over three years, a group that was featured on ABC'S Nightline television show. He also serves as musical director for many New York area theater productions. Elefante studied at New York University with Ralph Lalama, Frank Kimbrough and Don Friedman, and at New Jersey City University with Walt Weiskopf and Joel Weiskopf. He has performed with Michael Brecker, Jerry Bergonzi, Paquito D'Rivera, Jon Faddis, Byron Stripling, Jon Hendricks, Don Braden, Cecil Brooks III, and Roseanna Vitro.

Brian Killeen (bass) attained his versatile abilities on both upright and electric bass through the tutelage of Todd Coolman and Avishai Cohen. Killeen has secured many high profile gigs in New York City clubs Small's, the Blue Note, Birdland, the Jazz Gallery, and Fat Cat. He currently works with guitarist Chuck Loeb and the Josh Dion Band. Killeen has recorded with Loeb, Avishai Cohen's International Vamp Band, and ulu, and his resume includes performances with Randy Brecker, James Williams, Bill Goodwin, Bill Evans, Bob James, and Kim Waters.

Craig Yaremko (saxophones, www.craigyaremko.com) is an accomplished musician skilled in playing all saxophones, flutes and clarinets in almost every conceivable musical style. A graduate of the New School University, Yaremko has performed with numerous world-reknoned jazz, classical, and pop artists, and has released two CDs as a leader. In addition to his current freelance work, Yaremko is a private instructor on the faculty of the Encore Music Studio in Ridgewood, NJ.

Nathan Eklund

in the press

"One thing that's distinctive about the music on this CD is the care and craftsmanship that have gone into it. The music is accessible but never trite; Nathan's writing...is full of unusual and often subtle touches that will delight any sensitive listener." (Bill Kirchner, "*The Crooked Line*" liner notes)

"Eklund's...original compositions are the most striking and display a subtle complexity as they traverse the terrain of hard bop and beyond. ...The outing is an impressive foray in modern mainstream jazz, and the musicianship is dazzling, without turning into a display of excess." (*The Crooked Line*, Edward Zucker, All About Jazz.com)

"Trumpeter Nathan Eklund tends to blend seamlessly into the ensemble...Eklund's playing fits this context perfectly." (*Back On Top*, Rob Mariani, All About Jazz.com)

"One can almost hear Thad Jones in Nathan Eklund." (*Richie Cole: Then and Now*, C. Michael Bailey, All About Jazz.com)

"...features attention-getting solos by Nathan Eklund and Beckenstein, punctuated at the 3:00 mark when Eklund's trumpet begins a grind that segues into Beckenstein's signature growl." (*Wrapped In A Dream*, Woodrow Wilkins Jr., All About Jazz.com)

"...leaves plenty of room for trumpeter Nathan Eklund to stretch out and display his prowess." (ejazznews.com)