

Trumpeter Bryant Allard

At 51, Bryant Allard, has enjoyed a career that has taken him to many parts of the country playing with many great jazz musicians. Bryant started playing the trumpet at the age of 10 and grew up in the San Diego area where he was exposed to many great world class jazz musicians including, alto saxophonist Charles McPherson, Jimmy and Jeannie Cheatham, guitarist Peter Sprague, pianists Rob Schneiderman, Mike Wofford, and Butch Lacy and trombonist Hal Crook (formerly with the Tonight Show Band). In 1979 Bryant moved to Boston to study at the prestigious jazz school, The Berklee College of Music. Bryant studied under Bob Mover, Mike Methany, Claudio Roditi, and Jeff Stout. After graduating from Berklee, Bryant moved to the San Francisco bay area in 1984 where he played with many great jazz musicians including pianist Mark Levine. At the same time, Bryant ventured out and started his own music business, M.U.S.E. Inc. offering instrumental band programs to private and public elementary and middle schools.

M.U.S.E. currently employees over 15 instructors and offers programs in over 45 schools in both the bay area and Portland. Bryant also writes a lot of the curriculum and conducts instrumental workshops, including jazz workshops for middle and high school students that focus on the art of improvisation.

Bryant Allard currently lives in Portland, Oregon and can be seen playing with Ron Steen, Tall Jazz, Phil Baker (bassist for Pink Martini), Jean Ronne, Phil Goldberg, Bill Beach, Marilyn Keller, George Mitchell, Tony Pacini, Lee Wuthenow, David Evans, and many others. He has recorded with Tall Jazz on two CD's and with local salsa group Conjunto Alegre. He also recorded "REUNION" with the Powerhouse Quintet which has received great reviews including a five star review from Grammy award winner/trumpeter Brian Lynch(formerly with Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers). The group tours out of state during the summer months. Bryant has also released his first CD under his name called INFLUENCES which is getting lot's of air play on jazz stations across the country. This Portland based group features Greg Goebel on acoustic and Fender Rhodes piano, Dan Presley on bass, David Evans on saxophone, and Dave Averre on drums. This group can be seen regularly in the Portland area.

Bryant also conducts an adult jazz big band (The Portland Woodshed Jazz Orchestra) that meets once a week at the M.U.S.E Studios and performs for many charity functions around the Portland area. This 17 piece band is open to the public (see website at www.museband.com).