

chris washburne



TROMBONIST
BANDLEADER
COMPOSER
EDUCATOR

"One of the best
trombonists in
New York..."

—*New York Times*

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PRESS

FROM INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

“Chris Washburne is a young talent most deserving wider recognition.”

—*Howard Mandel, Jazz Critic for Downbeat and Village Voice*

“Trombonist Chris Washburne ... an excellent player...”

—*Ben Ratliff, New York Times*

“Chris Washburne’s trombone is burning clearly and serene, playing expressively innovative and articulate solos from a great instrumentalist”

—*Jørn Skovsgaard, Jazz Special Magazine*

“Chris Washburne is a superior hard bop player...”

—*Scott Yanow, All Music Guide*

“Washburne has emerged as perhaps my favorite trombone player of recent years and he doesn’t disappoint... His lines, while always inventive and technically superb, add to the music in the very best sense and his powerful solos never fail to delight.”

—*Brad Walseth, www.jazzchicago.net*

*Chris Washburne was voted
a "Rising Star
of the Trombone" in both
the 2008 and 2009
Downbeat Critics Poll!*

“Most impressive is trombonist Washburne’s unostentatious use of the full range of his horn: he simply conjures the colors he needs, without undue bluster.”

—*Richard Walls, The Boston Phoenix*

“Syotos has the mysterious ability to send listeners into a trance in which sounds penetrate the psyche like streams of water or wind.”

— *Corazon Tierra, New York Daily News*

“Stunning Latin Jazz!”

—*Eric Brace, The Washington Post*

T H E A R T I S T B I O

A CLOSER LOOK



"Chris Washburne ... a prominent jazz musician..."
—*Richard Dyer, Boston Globe*

"Washburne ... is an especially fine player..."
—*Bob Blumenthal, Boston Globe*

Chris Washburne is one of those rare musicians whose musical activities cross many styles and cultural borders. From early in his career he refused to be pigeon-holed as just being a jazz or classical player, but instead has continually pursued a diverse path. Chris is currently freelancing as a studio musician and performing trombone, bass trombone, tuba, didjeridu and percussion with various classical, jazz, rock and Latin groups in New York City. He also tours extensively with various groups and has concertized throughout the North America, Europe, Asian, Africa, South America, Central America and the Caribbean.

Chris received his Bachelors of Music in classical trombone performance from the University of Wisconsin where he studied with William Richardson, Richard Davis and Les Thimmeg. In 1988, he completed a Masters degree from the New England Conservatory in Third Stream Studies where he studied with John Swallow, Ran Blake and Bob Moses. He was the winner of the 1988 New England Conservatory Graduation Concerto Competition. He spent two months living in Zambia in 1985, studying the traditional music of that region, and in 1993, received a Mellon Fellowship to travel to and explore the rich musical traditions of Cuba.

In 1999 he completed his Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology at Columbia University. He is currently Associate Professor of Music and Founding Director of the Louis Armstrong Jazz Performance Program at Columbia University in New York. He has published numerous articles on jazz, Latin jazz, and salsa. He is author of the book "Sounding Salsa: Performing Latin Music in New York" (2008) and editor of the book "Bad Music" (2004).

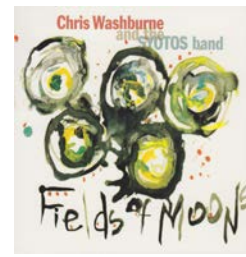
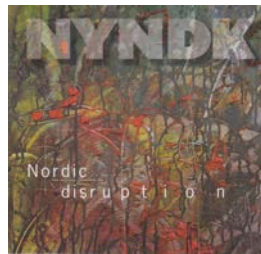
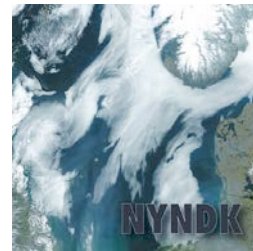
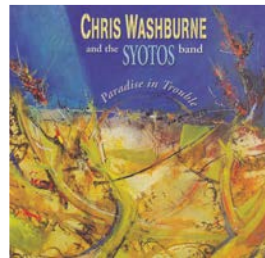
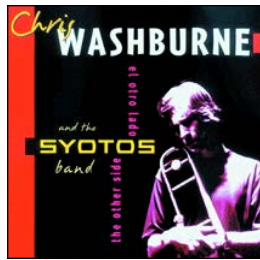
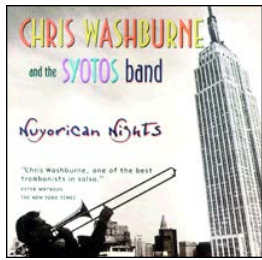
He has performed with the Duke Ellington Orchestra, Tito Puente, Eddie Palmieri, Justin Timberlake, Celia Cruz, Ruben Blades, Marc Anthony, Celine Dion, Anthony Braxton, Manhattan Chamber Orchestra, the Bang On A Can All-stars, David Byrne, Bjork, Muhal Richard Abrams, Gloria Estefan, They Might Be Giants, Chico O'Farrill, Don Richols, John Cale, Grady Tate, Baba Olatunje, Leslie Uggams, the Smithereens, Ray Barretto, Roscoe Mitchell, Jackie Byard, Danilo Caymmi, Arturo Sandoval, Paquito D'Rivera, Dinosaur Annex directed under Gunther Schuller, Walter Thompson, the SEM Ensemble, Freddie Cole, Lawrence "Butch" Morris, among many others.

He leads his own highly acclaimed groups SYOTOS and NYNDK and is a member of FFEAR (Forum for Electro-Acoustic Research).

RECORDINGS

Chris Washburne has performed on over 150 recordings, 14 of which have been nominated or won Grammys.

RECORDINGS AS A LEADER



- SYOTOS. *Nuyorican Nights*. Jazzheads Records JH1138 (1998).
SYOTOS. *The Other Side*. Jazzheads Records JH1139 (2001).
SYOTOS. *Trouble In Paradise*. Jazzheads Records JH1142 (2003).
NYNDK. *NYNDK*. Jazzheads Records JH1145 (2004).
SYOTOS. *Land of Nod*. Jazzheads Records JH1150 (2006).
NYNDK. *Nordic Disruption*. Jazzheads Records JH1156 (2007).
NYNDK. *The Hunting of the Snark*. Jazzheads Records JH1165 (2009).
SYOTOS. *Fields of Moons*. Jazzheads Records JH1159 (2010).

"Chris Washburne the trombonist, leading his SYOTOS band, has an evocative, at times almost dreamily inventive album in *Nuyorican Nights* (Jazzheads), which mines the Latin context for a lyricism that can be heard in the writing and his own burnished solos."
—*Gary Giddins, The Village Voice*

"Washburne's sets often please the feet as much as the ear, and he serves up a number of rhythmically enticing, improvisationally daunting tracks to prove the point on this, his second release with the Syotos Band."
—*Mark Holston, Jazziz*

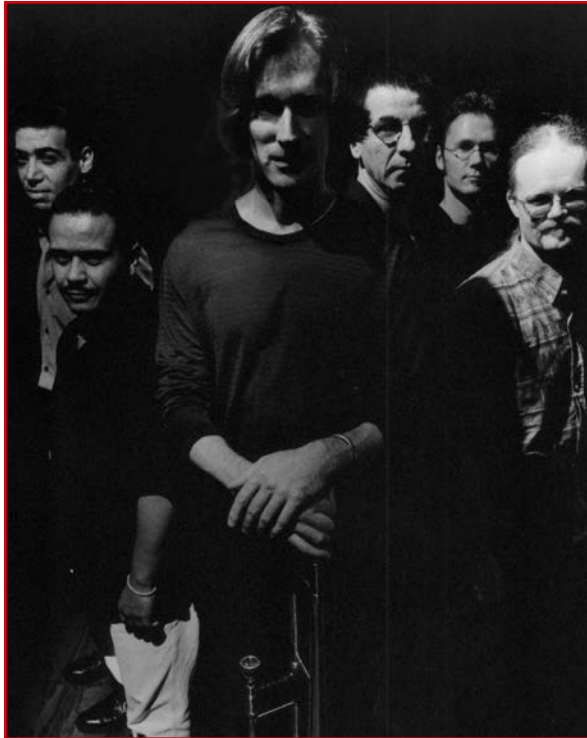
Paradise in Trouble was nominated as the Best Latin Jazz Recording of 2004 by the Jazz Journalist's Association

"The trombonist Chris Washburne leads this working band in its weekly engagement, bringing erudition as well as fire to the modern conventions of Latin jazz"
—*Nate Chinen, The New York Times*

"A trombonist and ethnomusicologist who has put in plenty of time around New York's Latin music scene, Mr. Washburne leads a hard-driving Latin jazz band that puts sophisticated arrangements next to a pan-Latin rhythmic foundation."
—*Ben Ratliff, The New York Times*

BAND LEADER

CHRIS WASHBURNE AND THE SYOTOS BAND



Chris Washburne and the SYOTOS band are cutting edged and innovative. They break down geographical borders and genre boundaries. This is Latin jazz with a global reach. Latin jazz with a post modern attitude, steeped in a New York vibe, Afro-Cuban, funk, hip hop, gospel and house. It's all in the mix. This is sophisticated music that grooves so hard that you can't help but get up and dance, scream, or do both simultaneously.

Chris has become one of the leading trombonists on New York's Latin-jazz scene. Heavily influenced by Tito Puente and Eddie Palmieri, his musical activities cross many styles and cultural borders.

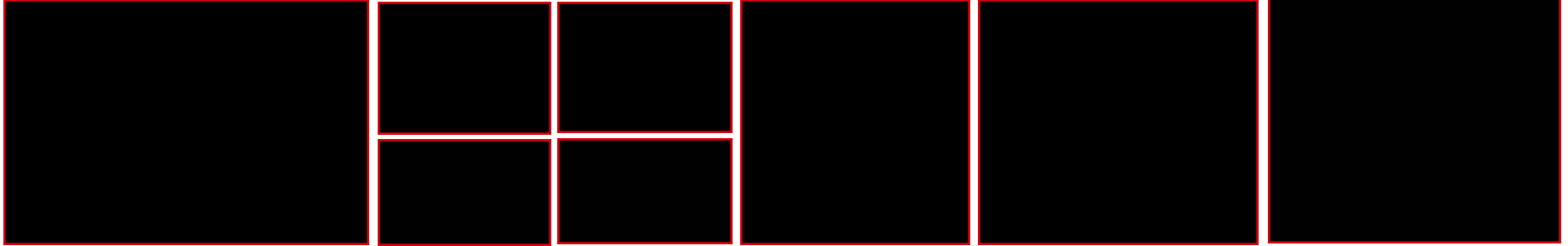
Founded 20 years ago, he leads SYOTOS, a Latin jazz group featuring his original compositions and some of the best players on the New York scene. His quest is to bridge the gap between dancing and listening music. While most Latin-jazz bands lean toward either the Latin or jazz side of the music, SYOTOS maintains a remarkably even balance, mirroring the multifaceted backgrounds of the individual players. Performing close to 100 dates each year, they are one of the the busiest and most in demand Latin Jazz groups in New York, and more importantly, they are a band with a real identifiable band sound– a rarity in jazz today.

The band's five recordings, *Nuyorican Nights*, *The Other Side*, *Paradise In Trouble*, *The Land of Nod*, and *Fields of Moons* have received rave reviews.

Chris Washburne and the SYOTOS band are making history on the New York scene

EDUCATOR

MASTER CLASSES, CLINICS AND LECTURE SERIES



"Washburne... is fluid and inventive..."

—*Frank Rubolino, Cadence*

Brief Overview

Chris Washburne holds a Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology. He has published numerous articles on the topics of jazz and Latin music. Chris is an Associate Professor of Music and is the Director of the Louis Armstrong Performance Program at Columbia University.

Clinics and Masterclasses

Dr. Washburne is available for clinics, performances and residencies. A working bandleader, composer, trombonist, and ethnomusicologist, he has prepared dynamic masterclasses and clinics for students of all ages and levels.

The Musician and The Trombone

This masterclass can be tailored to classical, commercial, jazz and/or Latin playing and explores different approaches to the instrument. The class focuses on developing good practice and performance habits as a soloist or part of

an ensemble and discusses techniques musicians must use to develop mastery of their instrument. Other topics include the importance of learning scales, chords, reading, and ear training along with methods to organize these musical skills into a coherent practice schedule. These master classes can be designed for beginning/intermediate/advanced musicians.

Masterclass: Improvisational and Compositional Methods

This masterclass examines many of the techniques used in contemporary improvisation and composition. This workshop is designed for the intermediate to advanced musician seeking to enhance and explore their listening, improvisation and performance skills.

History of Latin Jazz

This masterclass is an exploration of the geographic and cultural roots of Latin rhythms popular in jazz. Demonstrated in lecture format with or without a full band accompaniment, the master class traces the roots and evolution of

Latin Jazz. Activities include lecture, discussion and listening to live and recorded musical examples.

Latin Jazz Ensemble Workshop

Chris will bring professional musicians to you in the context of a concert performance or conduct the workshop in an interactive and participatory classroom employing the members of the student body. This workshop is designed for the musician seeking to improve their competence in Latin jazz styles.

Dance Traditions and their Music Forms

This lecture demonstration is accompanied by live performance by Chris' own band, SYOTOS. Through live and an interactive performance the folkloric roots and historic development of the rumba, mambo, cha-cha and other popular Latin dance forms are explored.

These workshops can be customized to your needs, audience and experience levels.

TOURS & APPEARANCES

NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA,
EUROPE, AFRICA, ASIA AND THE CARIBBEAN



GUEST APPEARANCE WITH THE NEW SCHOOL UNIVERSITY OF MUSIC BIG BAND

Chris has performed on many of the premier jazz stages and venues in New York including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Dizzy's Coca Cola Club, the Blue Note, SOB's, Birdland, the Jazz Standard, B.B. Kings, and Smoke. He has also performed at many festivals and clubs across the world such as, San Francisco Jazz Festival, San Jose Jazz Festival, Rochester Jazz Festival, Ottawa Jazz Festival, Montreal Jazz Festival, Lake George Jazz Festival, Boston Globe Jazz Festival, Newport Jazz Festival, Vision Festival in New York, JVC Jazz Festival in New York, Copenhagen Jazz Festival, Copenhagen Jazz House, Arhus Jazz Festival, Verona Jazz Festival in Italy, Heritage Jazz Festival in Moscow, Union of Composers Club in Moscow, Blue Note in Tokyo, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Molde Jazz Festival in Norway, Cafe Central Club in Madrid, the Conga Room in Los Angeles, the Chicago Blues and Jazz Festival, Burlington Jazz Festival in Vermont and the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., among many others.

Chris has lectured, conducted masterclasses and residencies at the New School University in New York, University of Richmond, State University of New York - Potsdam, State University of New York - Binghamton, City University of New York, Harvard University, Princeton University, Hunter College, Middlebury College, State University of New York - Stony Brook, and Queens College.

Chris performs every Sunday Night when in New York City at Smoke (106th and Broadway), one New York's premier jazz clubs.