

Matt Langley/Tim O'Dell Quartet

Matt Langley – saxophones/composer

Tim O'Dell – saxophones/composer

Luther Gray – drums

James Lyden – bass

“When Matt Langley asked me to co-lead a quartet featuring bassist James Lyden and drummer Luther Gray (two of the most in demand and versatile musicians in the Northeast) I pounced on the idea and started composing with vigor. We have had a blast working up and performing our new music, which really expands the concept of the modern, piano-less quartet. We are looking forward to our upcoming CD release of *The Catalyst* and some touring.” – Tim O'Dell

Saxophonist Matt Langley has been performing professionally for over 25 years. The product of an excellent Public School Music Program in the Concord, NH School District, Matt left high school well prepared to start performing immediately which he did with the experimental jazz group ESP. Landing a steady gig that lasted over two years, ESP was the proving ground for developing the improvisational style Matt still explores today. Along the way, Matt has also studied with Stan Strickland, Lou Marini and David Baker. As a longstanding member of the Charlie Kohlhase Quintet, Matt was involved in the recording of five critically acclaimed CD's including the current (2003) double live CD on Boxholder records which showed up on a number of Jazz critics' top ten lists. The CKQ has toured the US extensively, performing and teaching in venues ranging from grade schools to colleges and concert halls. Matt's Discography also includes two CD's with his own trio Color as well as recordings with the Mandala Octet, Carrie Coltrane, Tonkin Toys among others. Matt's recording sessions have included an opportunity to play with one of the living legends of Jazz, Ron Carter.

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Matt has also performed or recorded with John Tchicai, John Medeski, Billy Martin, Chris Wood, Dave Fuzinski, Roswell Rudd, Matt Wilson, Sam Palafian and many others. Matt is currently on the Faculty at the Concord Community Music School in Concord, NH where he teaches saxophone, improvisation and directs student ensembles.

Saxophonist/Composer Tim O'Dell has been hailed as "...The composer of Chicago" (*Beyond Coltrane*) and "... a fine, new voice on alto... loose and swinging and broadly expressive" (*Cadence*). In addition to this exciting quartet Tim composes for and performs/records with many other New England groups. Tim also works in Chicago performing at the Hot House and the Jazz Showcase and recording for Southport records there. His first two Southport CDs have received glowing, national acclaim: "A perfect album" *Beyond Coltrane* and "Unexpectedly grand" *Chicago Sun Times*. Tim has released several other nationally acclaimed CDs, been heard on Jazz Set with host Branford Marsalis, performed in New York, Miami, Boston, Chicago, and greater New England and his music has been broadcast worldwide. Tim has been invited to appear in Brazil, Japan, Switzerland, Portugal and Greece, and has performed with renowned artist such as Danilo Perez, Tim Hagans, George Garzone, Louis Bellson and The Temptations to name only a few. A highly versatile, published composer O'Dell's many dozen compositions cover genres ranging from string quartets to commissions for trombone ensemble to contemporary big band. Tim has also commissioned and premiered many works including Gunther Schuller's *Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano* and Andy Laster's *Valori Plastici* which O'Dell premiered in New York City. Dr. O'Dell holds graduate music degrees from the New England Conservatory and the University of Iowa and teaches at the University of Southern Maine. "A thinking man's player and composer..." *JazzTimes*.

Drummer Luther Gray was born March 10, 1972. He started playing drums at 13 in punk rock bands. His musical training involved listening to records and taking drum lessons from Kim Martin, Larry Bright, Steve Bagby and Mickey Newman.

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In 1995 Gray graduated from the University of Miami with a Bachelor of Music degree after which he taught privately and performed in the Washington, D.C. area with, among others, Butch Warren, Cecil Payne, Webster Young, Tsunami, Liquorice, Peter Edelman, Jenny Toomey, Bob Butta, and Buck Hill. Since moving to Boston he has resumed teaching private drum lessons and has played with Joe Morris, Jay Hoggard, Joe McPhee, Timo Shanko, Cameron Brown, Allan Chase, Joseph Daly, Sabir Mateen, Roy Campbell, Ida, Geoff Farina, Rob Brown, Bill Lowe, Greg Abate, Raqib Hassan, Bill Pierce, Mitch Seidman, Steve Swell, Joe Beck, Ken Vandermark and many others. In addition to his performing schedule Luther teaches art and music at an after-school program for elementary school children.

A native of Portland, Maine, **bassist Jim Lyden** has been performing for over 30 years. He studied with both jazz and classical bassists.

Much experience was also gained early on working with blues, funk, and rock groups in Northern New England. He has been a charter member of the Mark Kleinhaut Trio, which has included concert performances and recordings with Tiger Okoshi and Bobby Watson.

Free-lance work, which ranges from Western swing to the avant-garde has led Jim to play with John LaPorta, Roswell Rudd, Herb Pomeroy, Frank Foster, Don Doane, Jacki King, as well as many local jazz musicians. Jim maintains a busy performing schedule and can be heard on several jazz and folk recordings. He recently performed in Germany and Holland with the Kleinhaut Trio, and in Hungary with the Mary Anne Driscoll Quintet.

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