

# Arkansas Jazz Calendar

Vol. 17 No. 3

Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation Newsletter

September 2009

**Monday Jazz Project at the Afterthought to feature New Orleans own Astral Project on Monday September 14, Arkansas Jazz News, and Monday Jazz Project schedule**

## **Monday Jazz Project features Astral Project Monday September 14, 2009**

Little Rock once again welcomes a favorite New Orleans jazz group, the Astral Project. They will perform on Monday, September 14, 2009, 8pm. Tickets are \$15 at the show, and \$12 in advance from Capitol Keyboard at (501) 228-9999.

The Astral Project is a celebrated and inventive New Orleans band, a co-op band comprised of world-class improvisers, hailed by fans and critics around the world.

Down Beat calls Astral Project "one of the most distinctive and cohesive groups in jazz." JazzTimes calls Astral Project "one of the more adventurous working units in modern jazz today." The daily paper in Astral Project's hometown, The New Orleans Times-Picayune, calls Astral Project "the city's premier modern jazz ensemble."

"Big Shot," the band's first album in three years, showcases the band's unique mix of funky street rhythms, exotic melodies and brilliant improvisation as never before. From the inside-out groove of the title track to the collective improvisation of Pandemonium, the recording displays the band's peerless composing and performing skills.

The band consists of saxophonist Tony Dagradi, a devoted student of Eastern philosophy, John Vidacovich, the undisputed master of modern New Orleans drumming, Steve Masakowski, an awe-inspiring guitarist who plays unique seven-string guitars, and James Singleton whose bass playing provides the foundation of this innovative group.

True to the spirit of jazz, Astral Project creates real tunes while giving the musicians freedom to incorporate influences from all sources. The group shifts direction like a flock of birds in flight – so easily it seems to verge on telepathy. That can come only from special individuals who have spent decades improvising together.



"You have to stay out of the way of the music," says James Singleton "and then the reward is you learn something new that you didn't know before about yourself. If I close my eyes, I can learn more, I can get more. You find it's a transcendent experience. It's a spiritual experience..."

The Afterthought is located at 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, AR, phone (501) 663-1196. Tickets are \$15 the day of the show, and \$12 in advance from Capitol Keyboard at (501) 228-9999.

## **ARKANSAS JAZZ NEWS ...**

• **The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation** supports jazz in the state, for information write the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation, PO Box 251187 Little Rock, AR 72225, visit [www.arjazz.org](http://www.arjazz.org), or call Cecil Rich - President 501-228-9999. Mail in the form below for renewal or to become a member.

• **18th Annual Hot Springs Jazz Fest, September 15-20, 2009 Hot Springs Arkansas.** Saturday, September 19, 2009 is the Outdoor Festival on Broadway St. Admission FREE! Noon to 6:30 p.m. beneath the skybridge at Market and Broadway Streets, downtown Hot Springs. Featured performers include Pete Brewer, Deshannon Higa, Steve Suter, Phillip Manuel, Jazz Xtreme, US Air Force Shades of Blue, Shirley Chauvin and S'Wonderful, H.S.U. NuFusion, Sweet Mother, and the Hot Springs Village Dixieland Band. For more information check out [www.hotspringsjazzfest.org/](http://www.hotspringsjazzfest.org/).

Send entries to [ajc@arjazz.org](mailto:ajc@arjazz.org), mail to AJC c/o the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 251187, Little Rock, AR 72225-1187, or call the AJC editor at (501) 225-2891. Next AJC deadline is Oct 25, 2007.

## **HELP SUPPORT JAZZ IN ARKANSAS!**

For only **(\$15 individual / \$25 family/ \$5 Student/ \$50 Jazzman / \$100 Benefactor / \$500 Corporate)** you can become a member of the Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation and help support *America's classical music* in Arkansas. Your application fee entitles you to membership privileges for one year. This includes regular newsletters (*The Arkansas Jazz Calendar*), info about jazz performances around the state, and the right to help the Foundation decide which musicians and programs to sponsor. AJHF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the general public about the historical significance of Arkansas's musical heritage. It sponsors jazz performances by musicians with Arkansas connections and educational clinics for high school and college musicians throughout the state.

Fill this out to stay informed about upcoming jazz performances and educational clinics.

Check the Following:      New Membership ☐      Renewal ☐  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Jazz Society Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you a musician \_\_\_\_\_ instrument(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Membership \_\_\_\_\_. What types of jazz do you most like? \_\_\_\_\_

What jazz musicians or groups would you most like to see perform in Arkansas? \_\_\_\_\_  
College \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to *Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation* and send to:  
Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 251187, Little Rock, AR 72225.  
For further information call (501) 228-9999, 225-2133 or 663-5264.

## September 2009 Jazz Schedule

**Monday Jazz Project at *The AfterThought* , every Monday night at 8PM  
2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, AR (501) 663-1196**



**September 7 – Labor Day, Afterthought Closed!**

### **September 14 - Astral Project**

8 p.m., Tickets \$12 advance / \$15 day of show  
Available from Capitol Keyboard 13401 Chenal Parkway (501) 228-9999

### **September 21 – Vocalist Nan Maureen**

with Rex Bell-piano, Joe Vick-bass and Dave Rogers-drums, 8 p.m., \$ 10 cover.

**Fundraiser for Arkansas Prostate Cancer Foundation 501-748-1293**

### **September 28 - Monday Jazz Project Jam Session**

with Steve Stuthers-guitar, Brian Wolverton-bass, and Dave Rogers-drums.

Jam players signup in Afterthought Foyer, 8 p.m., \$5 cover, \$1 Jammers.

*All dates at the Afterthought 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock. (501) 663-1196. The Monday Jazz Project is sponsored by The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation ([www.arjazz.org](http://www.arjazz.org)), with special assistance from the Afterthought. Seating is General Admission. No Smoking, must be 18. For more information on the Monday Jazz Project contact Cecil Rich at (501) 228-9999.*

### **Other Jazz offerings at the Afterthought in September**



**Every Tuesday - Timeless Tuesdays with Carl Mouton, 8 p.m., no cover.**

**Thursdays - Sept. 3 = Thurman and Nesbitt, Sept. 10 Ed Smith Quartet,  
Sept. 17 Ted Ludwig Trio, and Sept. 24 - Dr. Rex Bell Trio.  
8 p.m., cover charge. (501) 663-1196**

The Arkansas Jazz Calendar  
P. O. Box 251187  
Little Rock, AR 72225-1187