



George Heid III

Profile

George grew up in his father's recording studio and began playing drums and piano at age 3. In this environment, he was always immersed in music and surrounded by powerful musical influences, such as jazz guitarist Jimmy Ponder and his uncle Bill Heid, a world-class pianist and Hammond B3 jazz musician.

George's earliest studies took place at the Afro American Music Institute where he studied with drumming greats Thomas Wendt and James Johnson III. Later George would graduate from Pittsburgh's Creative and Performing Arts high school, where he was mentored by jazz drumming legend Roger Humphries. After high school, he studied at Pittsburgh's Duquesne University as well as at State University of New York: Purchase, where he studied with master jazz drummers Kenny Washington, John Riley and Richie Morales.

George has toured and played at numerous notable jazz venues across the United States and China, including three multi-month residencies in Hangzhou, China. He has recorded with numerous well-known artists, including Dwayne Dolphin, Sean Jones, Warren Wolf, Bob Reynolds, David Budway, Benny Benack III, Brett Williams, Victor Provost, Ron Blake, Mar Vilaseca, Henry "The Skipper" Franklin, Orrin Evans, Roger Humphries and Steve Shehan. He's also performed at numerous festivals, including the Monterey Jazz Festival, Pittsburgh JazzLive International Festival, Tri-C Jazz Fest Cleveland, Washington Jazz Festival, among others.

George is the recipient of numerous awards as both a performer and composer, including the 2013 ASCAP Young Jazz Composer Award, Downbeat magazine's 2013 Best Original Jazz Composition award, and back-to-back Outstanding Soloist awards at the Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival awards in 2011 and 2012.

George proudly endorses Canopus Drums and Bosphorus Cymbals.





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Experience

NOTABLE FESTIVALS PERFORMED

Monterey Jazz Festival, Monterey Next Generation Festival, Cleveland Jazz Festival, Pittsburgh JazzLive International Festival, Washington Jazz Festival, Pittsburgh Arts Festival, West Virginia Jazz Festival, Monroeville Jazz Festival

NOTABLE VENUES PERFORMED

China JZ Club Hangzhou, JZ Club Shanghai; **New York City** Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, Smalls Jazz Club, Minton's Playhouse, Maureen's Jazz Cellar, Puppets Jazz Bar, The Iridium, The Garage, The Carlyle Hotel, Somethin' Jazz Club, Caffè Vivaldi, Nuyorican Poets Café, Symphony Space, The "J" House; **Pittsburgh** Lighthouse Arts, Inc., Con Alma Downtown, Con Alma Ellsworth, Eddie V's, Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, City of Asylum (Alphabet City), The Byham Theatre, The Benedum Theatre, James Street, SAVOY, CJ's, Ava Lounge, August Wilson Center for African American Arts; **West Virginia** The Stifel Fine Arts Center; **Philadelphia** The Clef Club, Chris's Jazz Café, Community Education Center (CEC); **Chicago** Winter's Jazz Club; **Detroit** Cliff Bell's; **Columbus** The Refectory Restaurant, Dick's Den; **Cleveland** The Ohio Theatre in Playhouse Square **Minneapolis** Crooners Lounge and Supper Club; **Milwaukee** The Jazz Estate

RESIDENCIES

- JZ Club Hangzhou with the Bill Heid Quartet (01/01/2014 - 07/01/2014)
- JZ Club Hangzhou with The George Heid III Quartet (January 1st 2015 - April 1st 2015)
- JZ Club Hangzhou with the George Heid Quartet (April 16th 2017- October 16th 2017)



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Education

Pittsburgh's Creative and Performing Arts High School (CAPA) (2006 - 2009), West Virginia Wesleyan College (2009), State University of New York: Purchase (2010 - 2012), Duquesne University (2012 - 2013)

FORMAL STUDIES

Roger Humphries, Kenny Washington, Gene Jackson, Rodney Green, John Riley, Thomas Wendt, James Johnson III, Greg Humphries, Richie Morales, Junior Teixeira, George Heid Sr., Steve Shehan



Teaching Experience

- George taught private drum and percussion lessons to over 100 students at Center of Life (COL) from 2009 to 2013.
- George taught private drum lessons to over 50 students in Hangzhou, China during three consecutive tours in 2014, 2015 and 2017.
- George taught collegiately as an adjunct drum professor at Washington and Jefferson University from 2015 to 2017.

Awards

- 2013 ASCAP Young Jazz Composer Award
- 2013 Downbeat Magazine (Best Original Composition)
- 2012 1st Place: Next Generation Monterey Jazz Festival
- 2012 Outstanding Soloist Award (Monterey: NGJF)
- 2011 Outstanding Soloist Award (Monterey: NGJF)
- 2010 Pittsburgh Jazz Society/BNY \$5000 Scholarship
- 2009 Roger Humphries' Next Generation Scholarship

Discography

- Russell Miller: "The Dance Eternal: The Dance of Life" (2011)
- Center Of Life Jazz Band: "Hazelwood" (2011)
- Roger Humphries: "Keep The Faith" (2011)
- Dwayne Dolphin: "Essence of an Angel" (2012)
- Elevations: "Elevations" (2013)
- P.SUS: "Open Ears, Open Mind, Open Heart" (2014)
- Elevations: "To The Stars" feat. Warren Wolf and Sean Jones (2015)
- Corners: "Corners" (2015)
- Kyle Simpson Jazz Collective: "Something In Between" (2016)
- Tony Campbell: "Eastside" (2016)
- George Heid III: "Little Blue Planet In Great Need of Care" (2017)
- Dwayne Dolphin: "Indigenous" (2018)
- Buffalo Rose: "I Feel So Good" (2019)
- George Heid III & Steve Shehan: "Wisdom Path" (2021)
- Con Alma Presents: "State Of Mind" (2021)