

DHARMA JAZZ

featuring Badal Roy, Vic Juris, Lewis Porter and Karttikeya

This exciting new cooperative quartet combines elements of North Indian classical music with jazz. Its members have worked over the years with Miles Davis, Ornette Coleman, Dizzy Gillespie, Wycliffe Gordon, Ravi Coltrane, Dave Liebman, and many other of the most famous names in jazz!

The repertory of Dharma Jazz includes traditional Indian ragas, original compositions by the group members, and jazz classics such as "Maiden Voyage," "Naima" and "Impressions." The sound of the group is unique because of the instrumentation--two melody instruments (guitar and keyboard) and two percussionists. The resulting sound has a spaciousness, an airiness, that captivated the audience at its debut concert at Rutgers University in September 2007. A demo CD from that concert is available upon your request. You can also watch short video clips of Dharma Jazz in action, and link to a complete two-hour performance with discussion (on youtube) via the website:

Dharmajazz.org

Dharma Jazz is currently booking performances. In addition, all four of the musicians are experienced teachers, and a highlight of Dharma Jazz is their ability, if desired, to discuss and explain what they do and the instruments they play. A short video excerpt of Badal Roy speaking to students can be viewed at the website. We are available to present lecture/demonstrations, workshops and clinics at festivals, colleges and conservatories.

**TO SCHEDULE PERFORMANCES, WORKSHOPS and/or LECTURES BY
DHARMA JAZZ, CONTACT:**

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BIOGRAPHIES

Each of the members is a well known performer in his own right:

Badal Roy is without a doubt the most famous tabla player in jazz. He was born in India and he arrived in New York in 1968 with a pair of tablas and eight dollars in his pocket. Soon he received his big break: an invitation to record with John McLaughlin and Miles Davis successively. Badal went on to record on Miles Davis's albums *On the Corner*, *Big Fun*, *Agartha*, *Pangaea* and others. He was one of the first Indian musicians to effectively meld Indian music and instruments with jazz and funk. Today Badal Roy is the foremost exponent of tabla in jazz music. He has played with not only Davis and McLaughlin, but also artists as diverse as P-Funk, Herbie Mann, Dave Liebman, Don Cherry, Pharaoh Sanders, Dizzy Gillespie, Lonnie Liston Smith, Andreas Vollenweider, and Yoko Ono. He has been an integral part of Ornette Coleman's *Prime Time* since 1988 and is presently collaborating with Brazil's Duofel, an instrumental guitar duo. Badal is also a key member of Michael Wolff's *Impure Thoughts* as well as a part of the Miles Davis alumni group *Children On The Corner*. Badal is currently in production on a project with drummer Mike Clark, producer/dj Kentyah and others. For more, see Myspace.com/BadalRoy

Vic Juris is one of the most brilliant of all jazz guitarists. He is a Jersey City native who first picked up a guitar at the age of ten. With no musicians in the family, he taught himself to play and was soon appearing with rock and R&B bands throughout the tri-state area. In his late teens Vic discovered jazz and classical music. From there it was on to a career with the likes of Dizzy Gillespie, Phil Woods, Jimmy Smith, Sarah Vaughan, Chico Hamilton, Mel Torme, Eddie Jefferson and Nancy Wilson. During the 1980s Vic started performing frequently in Europe with Michel Legrand, Richie Cole, Bireli LaGrene, Gary Peacock, and many others. Vic has been a member of the David Liebman group since 1991. This band has recorded 10 CDs, traveled throughout Europe, Japan, Israel, and the United States and is still going strong. Vic Juris also tours and records as a leader. Vic's band has recorded records on Steeple Chase, "Night Tripper", "Pastels" 1997, "Moonscape" 1998, "Remembering Eric Dolphy" 2000. His CD "Songbook" hit top 10 pics in 2000. Vic has also recorded on Double Time Records "Music of Alec Wilder." Vic's 2004 release of "Blue Horizon" listed him as top pics for the year 2004, and after that he released "A Second Look" and some concert DVDs on the Mel Bay label. Vic Juris is also a leading jazz educator. He has written two books published by Mel Bay, *Vic Juris Inside/Outside: Original Play-Along Modern Jazz Guitar Solos* and *Modern Chords: Advanced Harmony for Guitar*. He teaches at Rutgers University, The New School and Lehigh University, and he has conducted clinics throughout the US and Europe. See Vicjuris.com for more.

Lewis Porter is "a helluva pianist," said *Jazz Times* in November 2007. He is known for a free and open attitude, and an ability to contribute to any type of musical situation on piano or synthesizer. For example, he performed with faculty members of the Ali Akbar Khan School of Indian Music in 1973, and he has performed recently with such artists as Wycliffe Gordon, Ravi Coltrane, Dave Liebman, Joe Morris, and Jane Ira Bloom. His latest CD, recorded live at Siena Jazz, is *Italian Encounter* (Altrisuoni.com). Dr. Porter is a Professor of Music at Rutgers University in Newark, and is also known worldwide for his teaching and for his publications, especially *John Coltrane: His Life and Music*. He appears frequently as a speaker at colleges, on radio and at Jazz At Lincoln Center. His full schedule and extended audio and video clips are at **Lewisporter.com** and **Myspace.com/Lrpjazz**

Karttikeya is a musician of many instruments and a composer in many styles. In kirtan, Karttikeya plays the South Indian Naal drum, djembe and aplethora of percussion. He also plays the acoustic and electronic drum set in a variety of settings, including rock, jazz and funk, as well as country and blues. After graduating magna cum laude from the Berklee College of Music with a B.A. in Music Production and Engineering, Karttikeya immersed himself in Hindu sadhana, living and studying for many years at the feet of Satguru Sivaya Subramuniyaswami. Currently, Karttikeya furthers his musical education through regular drum study at The Collective in Manhattan. The past few years have found him playing alongside esteemed artists such as Badal Roy, Perry Robinson, Dave Stringer, Wynne Paris, Suzin Green and many more. Karttikeya strives to blend the best of East and West into each of his projects.