

Rufus Reid Biography

Sometimes called a chameleon, Rufus Reid is one of today's premiere bassists on the international jazz scene. His musical prowess can be found perfectly comfortable in an array of performance settings. You can find Rufus leading his own groups, which can be heard as *The Rufus Reid "Out Front" Trio* with Steve Allee, piano; Duduka Da Fonsca, drums, or the *Rufus Reid Quartet*; *The Out Front Trio with Yosvany Terry* on Saxophones. He brings *The Big Band Sound Of Rufus Reid* to the stage with many of his own compositions. He also performs *Quite Pride - The Elizabeth Catlett Project*, the music from his Grammy Nominated CD.

His major professional career began in Chicago and continues in New York, where he has traveled, performed and recorded with most of the Jazz Masters. He was privileged to share a moment of music with some that have passed on; Booker Irving, Gene Ammons, Kenny Dorham, Sonny Stitt, Don Byas, Philly Joe Jones, Kenny Dorham, Thad Jones, Mel Lewis, Dexter Gordon, Stan Getz, and Dizzy Gillespie, Harold Land, Art Farmer, Joe Henderson and Frank Wess. He has over four hundred recordings in his discography.

Rufus Reid is equally known as an exceptional educator. Reid and Dr. Martin Krivin created the Jazz Studies and Performance Bachelor of Music Program at William Paterson University. Reid continues teaching clinics since 1971 with associations with The Jamey Aebersold Summer Jazz Workshops, The Stanford University Jazz Workshop, and conducts Master Classes, workshops and residencies around the world.

His book, **The Evolving Bassist**, published since 1974, continues to be recognized as the industry standard as the definitive bass method. The **Millennium Edition** was published in 2000.

As if this was not enough, Reid has become an important composer too. A very original writer, he creates charts with sensitivity and personality, his compositional prowess and vision growing with each project. Reid was awarded the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship for Composition in 2008. This and three MacDowell Colony Grants have allowed him to explore composing for Symphony Orchestras. He is accepting commissions to write for Symphony Orchestras, Concert Bands, Big Bands, Solo Bass and more.

Rufus holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in Performance on the Double Bass from Northwestern University where he studied with Warren Benfield and principal bassist, Joseph Guastefeste, both of the Chicago Symphony.