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BLUE NOTE, APRIL 14-19

# JACK DEJOHNETTE



Billy Childs  
Interview



Eric Person  
Interview



John McLaughlin - Chick Corea Five Peace Band  
Jazz At Lincoln Center  
April 23-25

VOCAL LOVERS ISSUE

Scot Albertson • Robin Aleman • Janice Borla • Amanda Carr • Amy Cervini • Lainie Cooke • Joan Crowe • Jamie Davis • E.J. Decker • Sarah Deleo • Rachelle Ferrell • Elli Fordyce • Nnenna Freelon • Champion Fulton • Tori Gee • Marcus Goldhaber • Maria Guida • La Tanya Hall • Mercedes Hall • Lisa Hearn • Nicole Henry • Cheryl Hodge • Lauren Hooker • Jessica Johnson • Denise King • Ron Kaplan • Deborah Latz • Elisabeth Lohninger • Amy London • Martha Lorin • Pamela Luss • Kevin Mahogany • Veronica Martell • Nora McCarthy • Adriana Miki • Antoinette Montague • Margie Notte • NY Voices • Nicole Pasternak • Susanne Pittson • Pam Purvis • Shaynee Rainbolt • Louise Rogers • Jackie Ryan • Taeko • Cynthia Scott • Judi Silvano • Elizabeth Tamboulian • Dawson Taylor • Grace Testani • Gabrielle Tranchina • Allison Adams Tucker • Fay Victor • Rosanna Vitro • Judy Wexler

FREE

## Gabriele Tranchina

By Gary Heimbauer

### Activities that provide balance and fulfillment...

For the past 11 years, I have been running a music program for children from birth to four years old. This work has been very fulfilling for me. It is creative and I am passing on my knowledge to the next generation as well as educating their caregivers.

### On influences

I have worked with, among others, Bobby Sanabria. He is all about "the music" and makes sure that everything we do is on its highest level. When we work together nothing is ever played the same way. I am looking forward to what he is going to play and at the same time it puts me out of my comfort zone and makes me grow as an artist. My husband Joe Tranchina is the same way. We have worked together for the past 17 years. He has challenged me musically by breaking up the time in odd ways and putting unusual harmonies behind me when I sing. I have also been influenced by private lessons and workshops with my mentors Sheila Jordan, Mark Murphy and Bobby McFerrin, and my voice teacher Jeanie LoVetri. I could write a book about what I have learned from them... know how to count off your songs, the right tempo is essential to deliver the lyrics, know how to talk the musicians through your arrangements, know how to lead a band, don't start and end different songs in your repertoire the same way, don't sing it if you don't hear it.

### On overcoming self-consciousness

Breathing deeply can bring you into your body. That is what you need to do in such instances. Don't think!!!! Concentrate on the music (let me music inspire you) and listen to your fellow musicians, zoom in. Also prepare well for your gigs. Know your material well, so you can focus on the creative process. ■



## Allison Adams Tucker

By Eric Nemeyer

**JJ:** What advice do you have for young singers who are looking to develop their own voice and the ability to do this professionally?

**AAT:** Try everything and don't be afraid to take chances. If you fear it, do it. Surround yourself with people who inspire you, and get involved in your local music community. I am very often reminded of Thomas Edison's words, "Success is 10 percent inspiration and 90 percent perspiration." Never give up.

**JJ:** What are your top five desert island vocal albums, and please state why.

**AAT:** Ella Fitzgerald's *Pure Ella* for her timbre, scatting chops, unique melodies, and heritage for jazz vocalists. Henri Salvador's *Chambre Avec Vue*—When asked how Henri was able to keep such a polished voice at the age of 90, he replied, "I don't sing, I whisper." This was an epiphany for me. Henri is a reminder that I don't need all the frills on my voice to do it right. Sometimes keeping it simple is where it's at. I also love his world mix of Caribbean meets French Brazilian swing, all with a pair of flip flops and a white Cuban fedora—the perfect desert island music. Chico Pinheiro's *Chico Pinheiro*—Chico is not only one of the most unique guitarists and composers today, but he is a great guy, and his wife Luciana Alves challenges me. Stacey Kent's *Breakfast On The Morning Tram*—I like what Stacey seems to be about in her music—smooth and uncluttered. There is a lovely partnership with saxophonist Jim Tomlinson, and a continuing theme of light-heartedness and adventure in their original lyrics. Eliane Elias's *Around The City*—She's got it all: exceptional Brazilian vocal style on the low end, one of the best pianists around, a marvelous performer, and a stunning lady. ■



Visit Gabriele on the internet at [www.gabrieletranchina.com](http://www.gabrieletranchina.com)

Visit Allison on the web at [www.allisonadamstucker.com](http://www.allisonadamstucker.com)

## Jackie Ryan

By Gary Heimbauer

### Current activities

I just last week returned from doing two wonderful 4 day jazz/education festivals, one in beautiful Sitka, Alaska with The Jeff Hamilton Trio and Jeff Clayton, and one that John Clayton organizes in Moscow, Idaho called the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival which were both so fun. Because they were Jazz

festivals that also include Jazz education the level of interaction with students, other musicians and the community in general was very high. The Lionel Hampton Jazz Fest is the largest International Jazz/Education Festival in the world. It was started about 42 years ago and helped greatly by Lionel Hampton who brought in the biggest stars in the business, Ella and Sarah sang there. This year he made it an international flavor focusing the first two nights on Brazilian and Latin flavors. James Moody was a big part of the celebration as well as having on the last two nights the wonderful Monty Alexander and Bobby McFerrin. It was really a wonderful scene to be a part of as I got to meet so many beautiful people who are so committed to spreading the word about Jazz to young students. My first class was 400 Kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> graders and it was a ball! They are so pure at that age. They don't have any thoughts about not being able to do anything yet. They scat, clap on 2 and 4 and just have no problems with anything! It was so beautiful. We can all learn from the little ones in this way. I loved it. And to reach them at that age you

can really make such a positive difference in their lives with music.

And to see this town that has so much Jazz music happening in every school and that is all so supported by the whole community was absolutely amazing. I would hope that other Jazz festivals around the world would pick up on this model. Just think how many more children could be exposed to this music? Jazz is the best our culture has to offer. We need to be supporting it in this way. Also, I got to hang out with some of my favorite musicians, Romero Lubambo and Nilson Matta of Trio da Paz, Benny Green, Graham Dechter, Claudio Roditi, and Anthony Wilson to name a few. So it was really a ball. As far as the near future, I'll have a new CD coming out soon that was actually recorded a few years back. It has some wonderful musicians on it; Cyrus Chestnut, Eric Alexander, Jeremy Pelt, Ray Drummond, Carl Allen, Neal Smith, Dezron Douglas and Romero Lubambo.



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VOCAL LOVERS' CELEBRATION