

Steve Kaldestad M.Mus

saxophonist • bandleader • music educator

Profile: Mississauga-born, Regina-raised, McGill-trained, former Londoner and now Vancouverite Steve Kaldestad has become one of Western Canada's top jazz tenor saxophonists. He has appeared on numerous recordings in Canada and the UK and he also performs regularly with his own quartet and with several other groups, including the *Dan Brubeck Quartet*, the Juno-winning *Phil Dwyer Orchestra*, the Juno-nominated *Jodi Proznick Quartet*, Jesse Cahill's *The Nightcrawlers*, and more.

REVIEWS IN THE PRESS

- "...typically lean and incisive, soulful..." Peter Hum, Ottawa Citizen
- "...a poignant sound... another exemplary testament to the jazz idiom." —Raul D'Gama Rose, *All About Jazz*
- "...compositional prowess and a muscular tone and breadth that recalls Sonny Rollins." —Ashante Infantry, *The Toronto Star*
- "With a robust tone and swinging, rhythmic propulsion. his lines unwind fluidly..." —Glen Hall, Exclaim!

SELECTED RECORDING & PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

AS A LEADER

AS A SIDEMAN



Straight Up (2013)

Full-length recording of jazz standards and original compositions featuring The Mike LeDonne Trio Dan Brubeck Quartet, Songs of Dave and Iola (2013)

Phil Dwyer Orchestra, Changing Seasons (2011): 2012 Juno Award winner
Jesse Cahill's The Nightcrawlers, Vol. 3 (2013) + Down In The Bottom (2011)
Michael Bublé, Crazy Love (2009)

Karl Jannuska Group, *Thinking in Colours* **(2008):** CD recording + numerous festival performances at Marciac, France

Blow-Up (2009)

Full-length recording of original jazz compositions featuring Kevin Dean and André White Jodi Proznick Quartet, *Foundations* (2007): 2008 Juno Award nominee + 2008 National Jazz Award winner + Canada Council-supported tour

Kate Williams Quintet, *The Embrace* (2008): CD recording + several UK tours

Pasadena Roof Orchestra, *Roots of Swing* (2007): CD recording + several tours throughout Northern Europe

Denzal Sinclaire featuring Jimmy Heath, I Waited for You (1993)

EDUCATION & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Education: Master of Music (Jazz Studies, Saxophone), McGill University (2000) • Private Study, Lee Konitz, New York City (1997-1998) • Bachelor of Music (Jazz Studies, Saxophone), McGill University (1994)

Teaching Experience: Jazz Faculty, Capilano University (2008-present) • Masterclass + Clinic Teaching at UBC and numerous cities and festivals across Canada (2007-present) • Sessional Instructor and Adjudicator, McGill University (1998-2000) • Woodwind Instructor, Lower Canada College, Montreal, QC (1996-1997) • Private saxophone and jazz improvisation instructor (1992-present)



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Profile

Mississauga-born, Regina-raised, McGill-trained, former Londoner and now Vancouverite Steve Kaldestad is one of the top tenor saxophonists in Western Canada. He has made two recordings as a leader and has been featured on numerous recordings as a sideman. He also performs regularly with his own quartet, with the Junonominated and two-time National Jazz Award-winning *Jodi Proznick Quartet*, the *Dan Brubeck Quartet*, Jesse Cahill's *The Nightcrawlers*, and several other groups. Additional performance and recording credits include Michael Bublé, Jimmy Heath, Kenny Wheeler, Maria Schneider, Mike Carr, and Denzal Sinclaire.

Press Reviews and Testimonials

- "...typically lean and incisive, soulful... [The CD is] vivid, lucid and expressive, affirming the joys of swinging and soulful melodies."
 - Peter Hum, Ottawa Citizen, CD review for Blow Up (2009)
- "...[Kaldestad possesses] a poignant sound, and is a natural leader. [The CD is] another exemplary testament to the jazz idiom."
 - Raul D'Gama Rose, All About Jazz, CD review for Blow Up (2009)
- "[A showcase for] Kaldestad's compositional prowess and a muscular tone and breadth that recalls Sonny Rollins."
 - Ashante Infantry, The Toronto Star, CD review for Blow Up (2009)
- "With a robust tone and swinging, rhythmic propulsion, his lines unwind fluidly, extending into the altissimo register... His solos are intelligent, but accessible, in part because of their tasty blues spicing."
 - Glen Hall, Exclaim!, CD review for Blow Up (2009)

Education

Master of Music • McGill University, Montreal, QC • 2000

Jazz Studies, Saxophone

Private Study • Lee Konitz, New York, NY • 1997-1998

Tutelage in advanced approaches to saxophone performance and jazz improvisation

Bachelor of Music • McGill University, Montreal, QC • 1994

Graduated with High Distinction in Performance (Jazz Studies, Saxophone)

High School Diploma • Sheldon Williams Collegiate, Regina, SK • 1990

Graduated with Honours

Teaching Experience

Jazz Faculty • Capilano University, North Vancouver, BC • 2008-present

Adjudicator for saxophone entrance auditions, performance juries, and ensemble placements • Director for big band and saxophone ensemble • Instructor in ear training, sight-singing, arranging, jazz theory, woodwind techniques, and private saxophone study • Led the development and refinement of the saxophone curriculum • Various committee work

Masterclass + Clinic Teaching • Music Camps • Other Group Instruction

UBC Summer Music Institute (2012, 2013) • Surrey Envision Music Festival (2013) • Regina Optimist Band Festival (2011) • Canada-wide workshop tour of Brandon, Winnipeg, Whitehorse, Vancouver, and Nanaimo (2007) • New Westminster Secondary workshops (2010, 2011)

Sessional Instructor / TA • McGill University, Montreal, QC • 1998-2000

Instructor for Jazz Improvisation • Adjudicator for Jazz Combo Programme • Substitute director for McGill Big Bands 2 (Ron DiLauro) and 3 (Benoît Glazer)

Woodwind Instructor • Lower Canada College, Montreal, QC • 1996-7

Jazz-focused pilot program for the instruction of clarinet, flute and saxophone to over 40 students

Private Saxophone Instructor • 1992-present

Current roster includes 20 private saxophone students spanning many ages and aptitudes

Performance and Recording Highlights

Steve Kaldestad with Mike LeDonne Trio

• Straight Up (2013): Full-length recording of standards and original compositions

Steve Kaldestad Quintet

Blow Up (2009, Cellar Live): CD of original compositions, featuring performances by Kevin Dean and André
White

Dan Brubeck Quartet

Songs of Dave and Iola Brubeck (2013): Recorded live over three nights at Cory Weeds' Jazz Cellar

Phil Dwyer Orchestra

Changing Seasons (2011): Winner of 2012 Juno Award

Jesse Cahill's The Nightcrawlers

- Vol. 3 (2013, Cellar Live)
- Down In The Bottom (2011, Cellar Live)

Michael Bublé

Crazy Love (2009, Reprise Records)

Karl Jannuska Group

• Thinking in Colours (2008, Effendi Records): CD recording + several festival appearances from 2004-2007 at Marciac Jazz Festival, France

Jodi Proznick Quartet

Foundations (2007): Performed on this CD which was nominated for a 2008 Juno award and won both 2008
 National Jazz Awards, with a featured performance at National Arts Centre and a 20-date tour sponsored by
 The Canada Council for the Arts

Other Performance History

- Jill Townsend Big Band (2009-present): Including 2009 feature performance with trombonist Jiggs Whigham
- The Hard Rubber Orchestra (2009-13): New music ensemble directed by John Korsrud, with a featured performance at National Arts Centre in Ottawa as part of BC Scene, 2009
- The Peggy Lee Band (2009): Performed original compositions by Peggy Lee at 2009 Vancouver Jazz Festival
- **Ugetsu (2009, 2010):** Jazz Messengers-inspired group that plays original music, performed at The Cellar in Jan 2010 with vibraphonist Joe Locke
- The Mike Carr Blue Note Band (2000-4): CD recording, tours of UK and Netherlands, 2002 performance on Dutch radio program Sesjun + two separate week-long engagements at Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club in London (2002, 2003)
- The Pasadena Roof Orchestra (2001-8): CD recording and numerous tours throughout the UK and Northern Europe with this popular 20s/30s swing orchestra which has run continuously since 1969
- The BBC Big Band (2004-8): Numerous performances and radio broadcasts as first-call substitute
- Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club (2003-8): Featured guest soloist
- The Humphrey Lyttelton Band (2006-8): Numerous performances as first-call substitute in this band, a renowned UK institution [left this
- Other performances of note: Phil Dwyer (2012-3) Don Thompson (2012) Kurt Rosenwinkel (1998) Slide Hampton (1994) Maria Schneider (1998) Denzal Sinclaire (1991-7) Kenny Wheeler (1994) Maynard Ferguson (1994) Jimmy Heath (1992) •

Selected Discography

- Kate Williams Quintet, The Embrace (2008, 33Jazz Records): CD recording and several UK tours
- Pasadena Roof Orchestra, Roots of Swing (2007): CD and various tours throughout Northern Europe
- Geoff Gascoyne Group, Keep It To Yourself (2005, Candid Records): CD recording and UK tour with Universal Music recording artist Jamie Callum
- Billy Strayhorn Project, Multicoloured Blue (2004): Selected as UK Observer CD of the Week, Feb 2004
- Diane Nalini, Tales My Momma Told Me (2004, 33Jazz Records)
- Matt Wates Sextet, A Miller's Tale (2003, Audio-B): CD recording and several UK tours
- Mike Carr, Stephenson's Rocket (2002, Cargo): Selected as UK Observer CD of the Week, Oct 2002
- Denzal Sinclaire featuring Jimmy Heath, I Waited For You (1993, Uptown Records)

References

Bill Coon

Jazz Faculty (Guitar, Composition/Arranging), Capilano University, North Vancouver, BC

Gordon Foote

Professor and Director of U of T Jazz Orchestra, University of Toronto (Jazz Studies Program), Toronto, ON

Kevin Dear

Jazz Area Chair and Professor, Schulich School of Music, McGill University, Montreal, QC

Kelly Jefferson

Jazz Faculty (Saxophone), York University, Toronto, ON

Contact information for these references available from Steve Kaldestad