

Named a Rising Star of the alto saxophone by the 2003 and 2004 Downbeat International Critics Poll, **RUDRESH MAHANTHAPPA** is one of the most innovative young musicians in jazz today. By incorporating the culture of his Indian ancestry, Rudresh has fused myriad influences to create a truly groundbreaking artistic vision. As a performer, he leads/co-leads five groups to critical acclaim. His most recent quartet recording *Mother Tongue* on Pi Recordings has been named one of Top Ten Jazz CDs of 2004 by the Chicago Tribune, All About Jazz, and Jazzmatazz to name a few and also received 4 stars in DOWNBEAT. This CD reached #8 on US jazz radio charts and remained at #1 on Canadian jazz radio charts for over a month. He has also worked as a sideman with such jazz luminaries as David Murray, Steve Coleman, Jack DeJohnette, Samir Chatterjee, Von Freeman, Tim Hagans, Fareed Haque, David Liebman, Greg Osby, and Dr. Lonnie Smith. As a composer, Rudresh has received commission grants from the Rockefeller Foundation MAP Fund, American Composers Forum, and the New York State Council on the Arts to develop new work. Mahanthappa has his Bachelors of Music Degree in jazz performance from Berklee College of Music and his Masters of Music degree in jazz composition from Chicago's DePaul University. Info: www.rudreshm.com

MARCUS GILMORE (born 1986) was inspired by the music of his grandfather, legendary jazz drummer Roy Haynes, who gave him his first set of drums at age 10. He took naturally to jazz as well as classical theory and percussion for four years. He is a graduate of the LaGuardia High School of Music, Art and Performing Arts in New York City and is currently attending the Manhattan School of Music. Marcus received the Wynton Kelly Foundation Award, The Wyoming Seminary PAI Best Instrumentalist Award, the Essentially Ellington Best Drum Solo Award, Vail Jazz Festival Ella Fitzgerald Scholarship and the Brubeck Institute Summer Jazz Colony. He performed at the Monterey Jazz Festival, the Monterey High School Jazz Band Japan Tour and the Gibson/Baldwin GRAMMY High School Jazz Ensembles. In 2003, Marcus performed at the 28th International Jazz Festival in Bern, Switzerland as part of Clark Terry's "Young Titans of Jazz." The same band gave its New York debut at Birdland last fall. Marcus also loves Afro-Cuban Jazz and plays timbales and Latin percussion. He has performed with Steve Coleman, Ravi Coltrane, Vijay Iyer, John Clayton, Najee and others, and has sat in with Chick Corea, Ray Barretto, Branford Marsalis, Jimmy Heath, Wycliffe Gordon, and Roy Hargrove.

STEPHAN CRUMP (Bass) is a Memphis-bred bassist/composer whose music can be heard on his two acclaimed albums and in numerous films. He has performed and recorded in the US and across the globe with a diverse list of musicians- from late blues legend Johnny Clyde Copeland to Portishead's Dave McDonald, The Violent Femmes' Gordon Gano, Big Ass Truck, Dave Liebman, Sonny Fortune, Eddie Henderson and Bobby Previte, among others. Stephan is currently a member of Gregg Bendian's Mahavishnu Project and singer/songwriter Jen Chapin's band.