

JAHARI STAMPLEY TRIO



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Jahari Stampley

Jahari Stampley is a Chicago-born pianist who began playing the piano at the age of 14. Within two years of exploring the instrument, he began winning various competitions including Best High School Jazz Soloist Award and the National YoungArts Competition. By the age of 18 years old, he was recognized and followed by many world-renowned musicians including Yebba Smith, Jill Scott, Robert Glasper, Cory Henry, Jacob Collier, Stanley Clarke, and Derrick Hodge, among others. Jahari has toured with Stanley Clarke and is featured on Derrick Hodge's "Color of Noise" album.

Jahari has performed in venues such as Radio City Music Hall in NYC, The Met Philadelphia, Byline Bank Aragon in Chicago, Carnegie Hall in NY, San Francisco Jazz Center, and MANY others. He's also headlined & performed solo piano tours in Berlin, Koethen & Magdeburg, Germany, Geneva, Switzerland, and Los Angeles, California. He's conducted music workshops in Santa Ana, Costa Rica, and taught masterclasses in Spokane, Washington. Jahari is also the band leader & featured pianist playing the part of Bill Wither's keyboardist in the feature film "Spinning Gold". Many of Jahari's performances have garnered praise in various media outlets, articles & magazines throughout the world.

Jahari won first place in the 2023 Herbie Hancock Institute International Competition, 2023 Chicagoan of the Year in Jazz, 2023 Chicago Youth Symphony Alumni Award, the first non-classical musician to receive the honor; and awarded the 2023 Luminarts Fellowship for his debut album "Still Listening." Earlier in his life Jahari won the Bösendorfer prize for the international 2019 American Jazz Pianists Association Competition (for ages 18-25), the 2018 ASCAP Foundation Fran Morganstern Davis Scholarship, and the National Young Arts Foundation 2018 Young Arts Winner.

Alongside all of this, Jahari released his first Debut Album entitled "Still Listening" which rose to #1 on Apple iTunes in the first weeks of the Album's release. The music on "Still Listening" has also been set in an orchestral arrangement for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Jahari Also designed and wrote the music for a music Education mobile game, "Piano Chronicles". It is available as a mobile app for all mobile devices on Google Play Store and the Apple Store.

D-Erania Stampley

A Chicago-born beauty, saxophonist, pianist and gifted songwriter who leads her own dynamic band. She has shared the stage with such luminaries as Larry Carlton, Stanley Clarke and Robert Irving III and is well respected for her creativity and unique & soulful sound. She is also the only Artist in Illinois that plays the Straight-Alto Saxophone and the world is D-Erania's stage. She has performed across the US including Chicago, DC, California, New York, and abroad including Australia, Thailand, Europe and Canada.

D-Erania's live cocerts flawlessly display her love for many styles of music, regularly featuring exciting renditions of her original compositions as well as powerful arrangements of music by Artists such as Stevie Wonder, Wayne Shorter, Lalah Hathaway or Yellow Jackets. She has mainstream appeal yet her versatility as an Artist and Musician is certainly matched by few. All these aspects of her artistry are heard loud and clear through her vibrant band filled with melodic sax, rich keys, soulful bass, rhythmic guitar and solid drums.

D-Erania also performs many private & corporate events throughout the country and is known as a 'builder of bands' as she puts together and leads various groups from intimate wedding ensembles to Harlem Renaissance-style big bands. Pictured here is D-Erania with one of her outstanding bands including Grammy Winning Guitarist - Isaiah Sharkey, Keyboardist - Tony Cazeau, Drummer - Dwayne Deo Bradford and Bassist - Adam Brown Jr.

D-Erania's sophomore CD "Language of the heart" received Grammy ballot placements from the Recording Academy; gaining recognition in seven categories including "Best Contemporary Instrumental Album", "Best Instrumental Composition" and "Best Traditional R&B Performance" to name a few.

As an Independent Recording Artist, Engineer & Producer D-Erania has released two outstanding releases: "Offerings of Love" in 2005 and in 2016 "Language of the Heart". She has been recognized as an affluent multi-instrumentalist, performer & song-writer gaining endorsements from the Mouthpiece Manufacturing Company, Jody Jazz Inc. and the Instrument Manufacturing Company, Sax Dakota USA as their first "Chicago Lady of Dakota." She is also a Voting Member of The Recording Academy.

Miguel Russel

The following is excerpted from an interview at voyagemia.com

I was originally born in New York. My dad taught me how to play drums when I was about two years old. He then put me into a music school to further my education at four years old. From there, I met my first mentor, Baba Donald Eaton, who molded me into the student of music I am today. I then began to do performances at this age, playing around New York City to get the full experience of being a musician. At age six, I moved to South Florida, where I continued to grow exponentially, and soon found some of my future bandmates and best friends for years to come. In High School, I attended Dillard Center for the Arts, which gave me the opportunity to further my musical education.

Under the direction of Christopher Dorsey, I gained more knowledge on my instrument and music as a whole than I ever thought I could gain. In the jazz band, we were able to attend the prestigious Jazz at Lincoln Center Essentially Ellington competition, and place top 3 all my four years in a row, and winning 1st place in my sophomore year. This paved the way for opportunities for me to study under some of the greatest musicians of our time.

The road has not been smooth. Struggles will come from any area of life and from obstacles that have to overcome. After all, music and life are not separate; rather they are one entity. For example, struggles I've had to overcome when I was younger was my age. Some people would not take me seriously before hearing me play because of how young I was. Sometimes I would not get the opportunities others would get simply because of how young I was. I took that as motivation and worked to get proficient on my instrument as possible so that age would not be a factor.

My business is simple. I play all types of music for any event that I am hired for: band leading, sideman gigs, festivals, clubs, recordings, etc. I believe what sets me apart from the others is my aesthetic. The aesthetic I bring is much different from your standard "professional" or "formal" aesthetic. The same way I carry myself off the bandstand is the same way I carry myself on the bandstand. This brings an unmatched energy and vibe that is more personal, energetic, and youthful compared to the standard.

