

Curriculum Vitae

DARREN SIGESMUND

4-55 BRUNSWICK AVE. TORONTO, ON M5S 2L8

Tel/Fax: 416.922-1695

darrensigsmond@hotmail.com, www.darrensigsmond.com

EDUCATION

- **University of Toronto** Jazz Performance (Trombone) 1995-97
- **McGill University** B.A. Political Science 1988-93

PRIVATE MUSIC STUDIES

- **Trombone** Michael Davis (New York) Aug. 2002
Jerry Johnson (Boss Brass, Stratford Festival) 1995-97
Ian McDougall (Boss Brass, U of Victoria) 1986-87
Gord Sweeny (Principal Trombonist TSO) 1985-86
- **Piano, Theory & Composition** Frank Falco 1997- 2005
Brian Rudolph 1985-87

WORK EXPERIENCE (trombone & piano)

Education:

- **Private Piano Instruction** Humber College Community Program 2007 -
Children & Adults 2000- Present
- **Private Brass Instruction** Sterling Boys School 2007 -
- **Workshops as leader** (composition, theory, small and large ensemble playing,
and improvising)
 - Pender Harbour Jazz Festival, BC Sept. 2006
 - Mohawk College, Hamilton ON Nov. 2005
 - Memorial University, St. John's NF Nov. 2005
 - Queen Elizabeth High School, Halifax NS Nov. 2005
 - St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish NS Nov. 2005
 - Charlottetown Rural High School, Charlottetown PE Nov. 2005
 - Mount Lawley Senior High (big band), Perth AU Aug. 2005
 - West Australia Academy of Performing Arts, Perth Aug. 2005
 - Queensland Conservatorium/Griffiths University Aug. 2005
Brisbane, AU
 - Hong Kong International School (high school) Sept. 2005

Capilano College, Vancouver	Nov. 2004
Ernest Manning Secondary, Calgary	Nov. 2004
Henry Grube Centre, Kamloops BC (junior high)	Nov. 2004
Nanjing Arts Academy, China	Oct. 2004

Performance:

- **Darren Sigesmund Quintet Project - *Strands*** June 2003- Present
Featuring: Quinsin Nachoff (tenor sax)
Reg Schwager (guitar)
Jim Vivian (bass)
Anthony Michelli (drums)
- **Solo & Duo gigs, Piano** May 2001-

Other:

- **Professional Chef** (Taro's Fish, JOV Bistro, Café Societa Splendido, Messis, Eigensinn Farm) 1995 - Present

MUSIC WORKSHOPS (as participant)

- **Banff Centre for the Arts, Jazz Workshop** Summer 1986 & 1987
Dave Holland, Artistic Director
- **Interlochen National Music Camp** Summer 1984 & 1985
Classical & Jazz Performance

COMPOSITIONS

Sambango, La Isla Negra	2008
Little Nezumi Blues, Sonrisa, Amnesia	2006
Metamorphosis, Digestible (<i>Strands</i> Quintet)	2005
Solemn, Wheels, Marakesh, Another Thing, Tango, Chorale, Scott's Bay, Rhumba, Slippery Slope (<i>Strands</i> Quintet)	2003-4
Elusive Dreams (U of T small ensemble)	1996
Bow Falls (Banff small ensemble)	1987
Arr. Here's That Rainy Day (Banff Trombone Quintet)	1987
Image in Green (Banff small ensemble)	1986
Arr. Bye Bye Blackbird (Banff Big Band)	1986
Check it Out (Interlochen Big Band)	1985
Blues (Interlochen Big Band)	1984

RECENT TOURS/PERFORMANCES

Canadian "Strands" (TIMELY Manor) CD promotion tour Jan. 31 – Feb. 23, 2008
w/ Quinsin Nachoff, Reg Schwager, Jim Vivian, Anthony Michelli

Strands CD Launch, Hugh's Room, Toronto Feb. 21, 2008

Asia-Australia "Strands" CD promotion tour Oct. 9 -23, 2007
(Hong Kong, Tokyo, Sydney, Cairns)
w/ Quinsin Nachoff, David Braid, Jim Vivian, Anthony Michelli

Aug. 19, 2007 Markham Jazz Festival
Sept. 15, 2006 Pender Harbour Jazz Festival, BC
May 2006 1,000 Island Jazz Festival, Brockville ON
March, 2 2006 National Library, Ottawa
March 1, 2006 Humber College Concert Series
Feb. 10, 2006 "*Jazz at Oscar's*", Hart House, University of Toronto

2005 Eastern Canada Darren Sigesmund Quintet
(Nov. 12-21) with Quinsin Nachoff (ts), Reg Schwager (gui)
- self-financed tour Joel Haynes (dr), & Sam Anning (bs) from Perth, Australia

Charlottetown, University of Prince Edward Island
Charlottetown Rural High School (clinic)
Antigonish NS, St. Francis Xavier University (clinic & performance)
Halifax, The Music Room
St. John's NL, Memorial University
Toronto, The Red Guitar Arthouse Café
Hamilton, Mohawk College (clinic/performance)

2005 AustralAsia Darren Sigesmund Quintet
(Aug. 18 – Sept. 18) with Quinsin Nachoff (ts), David Braid (pno)
Peter Scherr (bs), Joel Haynes (dr)

- sponsored by
Canadian Foreign Affairs
& self-financed

Australia:
Perth, Mount Lawley High School (big band workshop)
Perth, Hyde Park Hotel/Perth Jazz Society
Perth, West Australia Academy of Performing Arts (clinic)
Perth, Australia Broadcasting Corporation (performance/interview)
Melbourne, Bennetts Lane
Sydney, SIMA/JMO quintet + big band collaboration
Brisbane, The Zoo
Brisbane, Queensland Conservatorium/Griffith's University (clinic)
Canberra, Hippo Bar

South Korea:
Daejeon, Daejeon Jazz Festival
Jarasum, Jarasum International Jazz Festival
Seoul, Once in a Blue Moon

China:

Beijing, 789 South Gate Art Space
JAZZ FM (Toronto) interview from Shanghai with Ralph Benmurgui
Shanghai, JZ Club

Hong Kong:

Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
Peter Scherr Studio, Recording of *Strands*
Hong Kong International School (clinic)

Japan:

Tokyo, Canadian Embassy Theatre
Tokyo, club B-flat
Tokyo, Halftone
Nagoya, Japan Expo 2005, Canada Pavilion

2004 Western Canada

(Nov. 18- Dec. 1)
- self-financed tour

Darren Sigesmund Quintet
with Quinsin Nachoff

Vancouver, Capilano College (clinic)
Victoria, Hermann's with Hugh Fraser trio
Vancouver, The Cellar
Enderby BC, Lorenzo's Café
Calgary, Ernest Manning Secondary (clinic)
Calgary, The Beatniq
Edmonton, Yardbird Suite
Saskatoon, The Bassment with the Dave Young Quartet
Medicine Hat, Cultural Black Box Theatre
Kamloops, Henry Grube Centre (clinic)

2004 Asia Tour

(Oct. 25 – Nov. 12)
- sponsored by
Canadian Foreign Affairs
& self-financed

Darren Sigesmund Quartet with David Braid (pno)

China & Hong Kong:

Hong Kong University
Polytechnic University of Hong Kong
Nanjing International Jazz Festival

Japan:

Airegin, Yokohama
Jazz Inn Lovely, Kumamoto
New Combo, Fukuoka
Mr. Kenny's, Nagoya
Mokkiriya, Kanazawa
Maiden Voyage, Kobe

2004

Toronto Downtown Jazz Festival (July)

PRESS

"As a writer, he's a genius.... **** (four stars) " - JD Considine, CD Review
The Globe & Mail, Apr. 15, 2008

"9/10" – **Len Dobbin, CD Review in Montreal Mirror, Feb. 23, 2008**

"[Sigesmund's] light upper register imbues his instrument with a melodic grace that it possesses in the hands of few players" -- **Stuart Broomer, Toronto Life Magazine, Jan. 2008**

"If your taste runs to substantial, tuneful, contemporary jazz with lots of flair and colour, then seeking out Sigesmund's CD is well worth it."
- **Peter Hum, Ottawa Citizen, Monday Feb. 18, 2008**

"a terrific 2 hours of jazz... The scope of his music makes it hard to pick highlights...Among them would have to be *Scott's Bay*, a ballad on which the trombonist and saxophonist traded exquisite soulful solos, while drummer Anthony Michelli plied a pair of mallets on his cymbals to suggest the sound of rolling surf." - **Doug Fischer, Ottawa Citizen, Sunday Feb. 17, 2008**

"magisterial... stellar..." **Geoff Chapman, Strands CD review
CODA Magazine Jan/Feb 2008**

"absolutely beautiful" – **Michelle Gregoire, Coordinator of Jazz Series
Centre culturel franco-manitobain, Feb. 5, 2008**

"...fantastic group and great writing. The ballad Scott's Bay was absolutely stunning, amazing." - **Sean McManus, MARIA February 11, 2008
(Manitoba Audio Recording Industry Association)**

"It's gorgeous...This is a fantastic album!"- **Luka Symons CKUA Radio,
Calgary**

"Sigesmund and his troupe are on a cross-Canada tour in support of his new CD, Strands. The trombonist has a warm, buttery sound and his sidemen are some of the best jazz musicians in Canada. On record they combine with Sigesmund to produce chamber music-like, original, melodic gems.- **Joseph Blake, Victoria Times-Colonist, February 1, 2008**

"incredibly well crafted pieces [and] fantastic vehicles for improvisational exploration ... I give my highest recommendation."

- **Tim Ries, Rolling Stones Saxophonist**

"Sigesmund, with a sound as warm as the purr of a Rolls-Royce, is a thoughtful player... The beauty of Sigesmund's tone and the agility of his technique led to a subtlety in his improvising, which went beyond good chops and good schooling to genuine communication."

- **Steve Pedersen, Halifax Chronicle Herald, Nov. 21, 2005**

"Chorale and Solemn... resonated with a subtle, dark beauty. Chorale featured some gleaming horn voicings and a series of evocative, song-like

changes...[Solemn] included an alluring trombone solo from Sigismund, whose warm, melancholic vibrato glistened with quiet intensity."

- **Jessica Nicholas** *The Age*, Melbourne AU, Aug. 29, 2005

Darren Sigismund C.V. / 6 of 6

"smooth and sophisticated trombone work and ingenious compositions"

- **Geoff Chapman** *Toronto Star*, July 2005

"Darren is a very naturally gifted musician. He is a fine trombonist and a composer of some fascinatingly original music. His working quintet contains some of the brightest talent in Canadian Jazz. This is a group that has the potential to become a major force in Canadian Jazz."

- **Don Thompson**, *Canadian Jazz Veteran*

"Darren Sigismund's first CD, *Strands*, demonstrates a composer of real promise, weaving together jazz, Latin and Impressionist elements with a strong sense of both colour and drama. The same thoughtfulness extends to the sometimes subtle, lyrical approach he takes to trombone. Best of all, Sigismund's assembled an unusually imaginative group to execute his vision, including tenor saxophonist Quinsin Nachoff, guitarist Reg Schwager, bassist Jim Vivian and drummer Anthony Michelli, July 30." - **Stuart Broomer** *Toronto Life.com*, July 2005

AWARDS

- Ontario Arts Council Popular Music Grant (Composition) 2008
- Canada Council Career Development Grant 2007
- Toronto Arts Council Music Creators & Composers grant 2007
- Canada Council for the Arts (2008 touring grant) 2007
- Canadian Foreign Affairs & International Trade 2007
(Asia-Australia *Strands* CD promotion tour)
- Ontario Arts Council (Recording) 2007
- Canada Council for the Arts (Recording) 2006
- Foreign Affairs Canada (4 week AustralAsia Tour) 2005
- Foreign Affairs Canada (2 week Asia Tour) 2004
- Interlochen Jazz Studies Scholarship 1985

REFERENCES

Available upon request.