

Johan Eriksson

Curriculum Vitæ

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Contact Information.

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Biographical Sketch.

Johan Eriksson is the Professor of Saxophone and Jazz Studies at the University of Montana and is finishing a doctorate at Northern Colorado University. He recently recorded a second album with Fred Hess, Matt Wilson, Ron Miles, Ken Filiano and John Gunther as a member of the *Fred Hess Big Band*. Their CDs are released on the Dazzle recording label. While in Denver, Johan performed regularly with the *Ninth and Lincoln Jazz Orchestra*, which is lead by the ASCAP emerging composer award winner, Tyler Gilmore. He also performed with the Colorado Jazz Orchestra led by Dana Landry, Jim White and David Caffey. Johan is in high demand for both jazz and classical, and has performed with the *Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra*, *Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra*, *Rockford Symphony Orchestra* and as a saxophone soloist with the *Chicago Chamber Singers*. Johan has backed up such artists as Slide Hampton, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Lee Konitz, Chris Potter, Terrell Stafford, Rufus Reid, Hamiet Bluiett, Randy Brecker, Bill Holman, "Blue" Lou Marini, Vince DiMartino, Shelly Berg, Wayne Bergeron, Matt Wilson, Steve Turre, Tom Garling, Jay Sanborn, Greg Gisberg, Grace Kelly, Willie Pickens and many others. He performs on all saxophones, as well as flute and clarinet doubles. Johan is as comfortable in a big band, jazz combo or salsa group, as he is in a symphony orchestra, chamber group or wind ensemble. Eriksson performed and toured with the Down Beat Award Winning Northern Colorado University Lab Band One while serving as their lead alto chair. He also performed with the UNC Combo One and conducted UNC Lab Band Five. In addition to performing, Johan enjoys composing and arranging for large and small jazz ensembles.

Johan is dedicated to music education and served as a band director in the Dekalb School District near Chicago, IL. While in Chicago, Johan performed with players such as Dan Nimmer, Joey Sellers, Fareed Haque, Dave Stamps, Doug Stone, Greg Ward, Marlene Rosenberg, Ron Carter, Tom Garling, Willie Pickens and Orlando Cotto.

Johan has also performed internationally in Sweden, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Great Britain. Johan has held lead chair positions in the top jazz bands and concert bands while completing his undergraduate studies at the University of North Carolina Greensboro and his Graduate Degrees at Northern Illinois University and the University of Northern Colorado.

Johan's extensive teaching experience includes: audition community big bands and community courses, high school big bands and concert bands, middle school big bands and concert bands, and elementary school general music courses. During these busy years in the public schools, Eriksson also instructed a private studio of approximately fifty students.

Johan Eriksson holds a Graduate Degree in Saxophone Performance from Northern Illinois University, and a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies and a second Bachelor of Music in Saxophone Performance from the University of North Carolina Greensboro. Eriksson expects to graduate from the University of Northern Colorado with his Doctor of Arts in 2010. His principal field of study is in Saxophone Performance, with related fields of study in Music Theory and Jazz Studies.

Education.

Doctor of Arts, expected graduation 2010

Northern Colorado University, Greeley CO

Principal Field. Saxophone Performance

Related Field. Music Theory

Dissertation: *“Pedagogical Strategies-Teaching Combined Jazz and Classical Saxophone. Based on interviews with Branford Marsalis, Donald Sinta, Andrew Bishop, Rick VanMatre and Thomas Walsh ”*

Advisor: Dr. Andrew Dahlke

Master of Music, 2003

Northern Illinois University, Dekalb IL

Principal Field. Jazz Pedagogy

Bachelor of Music, 2001

University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro NC

Principal Field. Saxophone Performance

Research Project: *“Stylistic Differences in Jazz and Classical Saxophone Tonguing”*

Advisor: Steven Stusek

Bachelor of Music, 2001

University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro NC

Principal Field. Jazz Studies

Private Study:

Saxophone

Dr. Andrew Dahlke
Prof. Stephen Duke
Dr. Steven Stusek
Dr. Craig Whittaker
Prof. Magnus Nilsson
Prof. Tommy Wiklund
Prof. Lars-Gunnar Pettersson

Jazz

Prof. Dana Landry
Prof. James White
Prof. Erik Appelgate
Prof. Ron Carter
Prof. Joey Sellers
Prof. Steve Haines
Prof. John Salmon

Performed with:

National – Based Groups/Artists

Matt Wilson
Ken Filiano
Ron Miles
Dan Nimmer
“Blue” Lou Marini
John Corgiliano
Glen Cortese
Steve Wilson
Lee Konitz
Grace Kelly
Shelly Berg
Terrell Stafford
Azar Lawrence
Donnie McCaslin
Johnathan Blake

Denver – Based Groups/Artists

Fred Hess Big Band
Colorado Jazz Orchestra
Ninth and Lincoln Jazz Orchestra
Ben Waters Salsa Connection
Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra
Brad Goode
John Gunther

Fred Hess
Al Hood
Paul Romaine
Tyler Gilmore
Dana Landry
Jim White
Erik Applegate
Dave Stamps
Andrew Dahlke
Peter Sommers
Mark Sabbetela
Mark Harris
Wil Swindler

Performed

With.
(continued)

Chicago – Based Groups/Artists

Chicago Chamber Singers (soprano saxophone soloist)
Illinois Symphony Orchestra
Rockford Symphony Orchestra
Banda Rika Salsa Band
Rhythm Rockets Swing Band
Doug Stone
Greg Ward
Nick Fryer
Joey Sellers
Marlene Rosenberg
Fareed Haque
Ron Carter
Tom Garling
Willie Pickens
Orlando Cotto

Montana – Based Groups/Artists

Margaret Schuberg
Maxine Ramey
Craig Hall
Christopher Hahn

David Morgenroth
Lance Boyd
Robert Leadbetter
Mike Freemole
Christopher Kirkpatrick
Jennifer Cavanaugh
UM Jazz Ensemble I
Reverend Slanky
Donna Smith Quartet
Fern Glass

North Carolina – Based Groups/Artists

North Carolina Symphony Orchestra
Tom Taylor
John Salmon
Craig Whittaker

Sweden – Based Groups/Artists

Kungsbacka Storband
Tommy Wiklund
Magnus Nilsson

Shows/Productions

Cats (Chicago)
Les Miserables (Chicago)
Hello Dolly (Chicago)
Guys and Dolls (Chicago)
Bye Bye Birdie (Chicago)
West Side Story (Greensboro)

Performed

With.

(continued)

University Groups Accompanying Artists

UNC Lab Band One.

Slide Hampton, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Wayne Bergeron, Jay Sanborn,
Vince DiMartino, Greg Gisberg, Bill Holman

NIU Jazz Ensemble:

Rufus Reid, Hamiet Bluiett, Steve Turre, Randy Brecker, Tom Garling

UNCG Jazz Ensemble:

Brice Winston, Joe Henson, Robbie Smith

UNCG Wind Ensemble:

Harry Begian, Thomas Leslie, Edward Bach, Dennis Zeisler, Don Wilcox,
David Holsinger, Deborah Egekvist, Dennis Askew

University Ensembles

UNC Lab One (lead alto)

UNC Combo I

UNC Combo II

UNC Wind Ensemble I

UNC Graduate Saxophone Quartet I

UNC Symphony Orchestra

NIU Jazz Ensemble I (lead alto)

NIU Wind Ensemble I (principal)

NIU *Lucinda* Saxophone Quartet I

NIU Chamber Choir (soprano saxophone)

UNCG Jazz Ensemble I (lead alto)

UNCG Wind Ensemble I (tenor)

UNCG Saxophone Quartet I (tenor)

UNCG Symphony Orchestra

Master Class Performance

Kenny Garrett

Chris Potter

Ingrid Jensen

Christian McBride

Esbjorn Svensson

Ove Ingmarsson

Ewan Svensson

Magnus Gran

Matz Nilsson

New Century Saxophone Quartet

Vermeer String Quartet

Recordings:

Fred Hess Big Band, release 2010
 Fred Hess Big Band "Hold On", 2009
 UNC Lab Band One, 2009
 Johan Eriksson Octet, 2009
 UNC Combo One, 2008
 Greeley Philharmonic live with John Corgiliano, 2008
 NIU Jazz Ensemble, *Swinging every which way but loose*, 2005
 Chicago Chamber Singers Live, 2003
 UNCG Wind Ensemble:
 Internal Combustion, 2001
 Equus, 2001
 A Tribute to Sousa, 2000
 College Band Directors NASC (Live), 2000
 65th Annual Convention ABA (Live), 1999
 Aspen Jubilee (Live), 1999
 Symphonic Overture (Live), 1999
 Fanfare for the Common Man (Live), 1998
 Showing Off Before Company (Live), 1998
 Jubilee Overture (Live), 1998

Publication:

Life of Matteo De Perugia
 Accepted for publication in the Early Music Colorado Quarterly Journal, 2009

**Teaching
Experience:**

Professor of Saxophone and Jazz Studies at the University of Montana
 University of Montana, Missoula, MT, 2009–present
 Professor of the UM Saxophone Studio: Jazz and Classical, 2009–present
 Director of UM Saxophone Quartets, 2009–present
 Director of UM Jazz Combo Program, 2009–present
 Instructor of Jazz History lecture course, 2009–present
 Instructor of UM Online Jazz History course, 2009–present
 Instructor of Woodwind Techniques course: Saxophone, 2009–present

Graduate Assistant for Northern Colorado University Jazz Department.

Northern Colorado University, Greeley, CO, 2007–2009

Director of Jazz Lab Band V, 2008–2009

Director of Jazz Combo VI, 2007–2008

Substitute teaching of Jazz Lab Band III, 2007–2008

Undergraduate Saxophone Studio Substitute Instructor, 2008–2009

Undergraduate Music Theory Substitute Instructor, 2008–2009

Undergraduate Aural Skills Substitute Instructor, 2008–2009

Assistant High School Bands Director

Dekalb High School, district 428, Dekalb IL

Assistant Jazz Ensemble Director, 2005–2007

Assistant Jazz Lab Band Director, 2005–2007

Concert Band Woodwind Sectionals Director, 2005–2007

Wind Ensemble Sectionals Director, 2005–2007

Wind Ensemble Saxophone Quartet Coach, 2005–2007

Middle School Jazz Band and Concert Bands Director

Clinton–Rosette Middle School, district 428, Dekalb IL

Concert Band Director: 2004–2007

Sixth grade Concert Band Director

Seventh grade Concert Band Director

Eighth grade Concert Band Director

Private Lessons Instructor to all woodwind students

(approximately 80 students)

Jazz Band Director, 2004–2007

Jazz Ensemble, seventh and eighth grade

Blues Lab Band, sixth and seventh grade

***These two jazz groups were founded by Johan Eriksson during his tenure at Clinton–Rosette Middle School

Teaching

Experience.

(continued)

Middle School Jazz Band Director

Huntley Middle School, district 428, Dekalb IL

Jazz Ensemble Director, 2002–2007

General Music Instructor

Cortland Elementary School, district 428, Cortland, IL

General Music Instructor, Kindergarten through fifth grade, 2006–2007

(approximately 300 students)

Band and Choir Director

Cornerstone Christian Academy, Dekalb/Sycamore, IL

Band Director, 2003–2004

Middle School Concert Band Director

High School Concert Band Director

Choir Director, 2003–2004

High School Choir Director

Teaching Assistant

Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, IL

Teaching Assistant for the Woodwinds Department.

Instructor for Saxophone Quartets, 2001–2003

Instructor for Undergraduate Saxophone Studio (pre-majors and non-majors),

2001–2003

Woodwind Convocation Coordinator, 2001–2003

Jazz Combo Instructor at Summer Jazz Camps, 2001–2004

Teaching

Experience.

(continued)

Community Music Program Instructor

Northern Illinois University Community School of the Arts, Dekalb, IL

Associate Level Instructor:

Private Studio Instructor: Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute, 2002–2006

Jazz Audition Big Band, 2003–2007

***88% of the students in the jazz audition big band made district or all-

state bands in Illinois while Johan Eriksson instructed

***When Johan Eriksson began instructing this big band, the group was only half full due to lack of interest. After three years, Eriksson was turning students away in every chair and the group had become a premiere high school band in Illinois

Instructor and Creator of Jazz Arranging/Composing Courses I and II,
2003–2006

Instructor of Jazz Improvisation Courses I and II, 2003–2006

Instructor and Creator of Jazz Theory Course, 2004

Director of Jazz Combos Program, 2002–2006

Private Lessons Instructor

CountrySide Music, Elburn, IL

Private Studio Instructor : Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute, 2002–2004

Imperial School of Music, Geneva IL

Private Studio Instructor: Saxophone, 2003–2004

***Throughout 2002–2004, Johan Eriksson maintained a private studio of approximately 50 students per week

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC

Jazz Combo III, 2000–2001

Summer Band Camp Instructor, 1999–2001

Related Teaching Experience.

Adjudicator for the Missoula District Music Festival, 2010

Adjudicator for the Great Falls District Music Festival, 2010

Adjudicator for the UM Concert Band Festival, 2010

Instructor of the Saxophone Sectionals with Colorado All-State Bands,
2008

Adjudicator for the Sycamore District Music Festival, soloists–chamber groups,
2003–2006

Adjudicator in the Illinois District 8 Jazz Auditions, saxophones, 2003–2006

Adjudicator for the Dekalb High School Jazz Ensemble Festival, 2003

**Jazz Educators
Network.**

President of the University of Colorado Chapter of Jazz Educators Network,

2008 to 2009

Developed Music Education Clinics and Master Classes

Bebop Jazz Improvisation, Steve Kovalcheck

Teaching a High School Big Band, Dave Stamps and Johan Eriksson

Conducting a Big Band, Johan Eriksson

Teaching Jazz Vocal Choir, Kelsey Shiba

Brought World Class Jazz Artists to UNC to perform and educate.

Greg Osby

Ingrid Jenson

Clay Jenkins

Steve Wilson

Colorado Jazz Orchestra

Bijoux Barbosa

Bill Holman

**Professional
Affiliations.**

National Association for Music Education

North American Saxophone Alliance

Jazz Educators Network

Montana Music Educators Association

Compositions.

Big Band.

Katie's Song (2007)

Don't Explain (arrangement) (2006)

Inlandsbanan (2005)

Lullaby of Birdland (arrangement) (2005)

You Don't Know What Love Is (arrangement) (2004)

Another Parade (arrangement) (2004)

On the Bright Side of the Road (arrangement) (2003)

With Some Help from My Friends (2001)

Rasa (2000)

Jazz Combo:

Off Minor (arrangement 3 horns + R.S), 2009

Bach Shortly, 2008

Sommarvisa, 2008

Amazing Gracie, 2008

Prelude in C-Minor (arrangement 4 horns + R.S), 2008

Katie's Song (arr. for 4 horns + R.S), 2008

Inlandsbanan (arr. for combo), 2006

Ack Varmeland du Skona (arr. for 5 horns + R.S), 2005

Little Girl Blue, arrangement, 2003

Use Me, 2002

Sixth Sense, 2000

Bryggan, 1998

Commissions:

Dustin Drews: Something in the Air, 2008

Kelly Fenton: Blaine the Pain, 2008

Ben Whalund: Movements for Alto Saxophone (inspired by John Cage),
2003

Joey Sellers: Three Essays Four Saxophones, 2002

Thomas Dempster: Saxophone Quartet, 1999

Winner of Downbeat Magazine's *Outstanding Performance by a College Big Band as part of UNC Lab Band One*, 2009

Awards

President for the UNC's Jazz Educators Network chapter, 2009

And

Winner of Southard Competition with UNC Saxophone Quartet One performing

Honors:

Sechs Bagatellen by G. Ligeti, 2009

Finalist as a soloist performing Ida Gotkovsky's *Brilliance* at the Southard Competition, 2008

President of UNC's IAJE Chapter (Largest student chapter in the world), 2008

Performed with Lucinda Saxophone Quartet, chosen as Downbeat Magazine's

Best Collegiate Chamber Group 2001

Performed with Banda Rika Salsa Band, voted best salsa band in Chicago 2002, and

won "Best Suburban Latin Band" by Suburban Nightlife 2003

Winner of MENC's North Carolina Division for Chamber Groups 2000, with UNCG

Saxophone Quartet I

Performed as a soloist at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC with the UNCG

Symphony Orchestra, 2000

Outstanding Soloist Elmhurst Jazz Festival, 2002

Outstanding Soloist Charlotte Jazz Festival, 2001

Alpha Lambda Delta (Academic Honor Society)

Pi Kappa Lambda (Academic Honor Society)

Pi Kappa Kappa (Music Honor Society)

Graduated Magna Cum Laude from UNCG, 2001

Graduated Cum Laude from NIU, 2003

UNCG Undergraduate Research Assistantship. "Stylistic Differences in Jazz and

Classical Saxophone Tonguing", 2001

Teaching assistantship at Northern Colorado University, 2007 to Present

Teaching assistantship at Northern Illinois University, 2001-2003

Undergraduate Teaching Assistantship at the University of North Carolina at

Greensboro, 2000-2001

Numerous music scholarships through UNCG, NIU and UNC

Convention

Performances.

Performance of *In Case You Missed It* by Bobby Watson and *Sechs Bagatellen* by Gyorgi Legiti, with the UNC Graduate Saxophone Quartet I at the NASA Regional Convention at the University of New Mexico, 2009

Performance (world premiere of Kelly Fenton's work: *Blaine the Pain*) with UNC's Lab ONE saxophone section at the NASA Biennial Convention at the University of South Carolina, 2008

Performance (world premiere of Dustin Drew's work: *Something in the Air*) with UNC Graduate Saxophone Quartet at the NASA Biennial Convention at the University of South Carolina, 2008

Performance (world premiere of Joey Sellers' work: *Three essays four saxophones*) with Lucinda Saxophone Quartet at the NASA Biennial Convention at North Texas University, 2002

References:

Dana Landry, M.M.
Director of Jazz Studies
Artistic Director of the UNC/Greeley Jazz Festival
Director of UNC Jazz Press
University of Northern Colorado
Phone: (970) 351-2253
E-mail: dana.landry@unco.edu

Dr. Andrew Dahlke
Assistant Professor of Music, Jazz and Classical Saxophone Professor
University of Northern Colorado
Phone: (970) 351-2000
E-mail: andrew.dahlke@unco.edu

Steve Duke
Distinguished Research Professor
Professor of Jazz and Classical Saxophone
Northern Illinois University
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Travis Erikson
Music Coordinator and Choir Director
DeKalb High Schools, District 428, Illinois
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Dave Stamps, M.M.
Associate Director of Jazz Studies
University of Northern Colorado
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References:
(continued)

James White
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University of Northern Colorado
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Dr. Stefan Eckhart
Assistant Professor of Music, Music Theory
University of Northern Colorado
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(Northern Illinois Community School Programs Director)
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