

Kelly Jefferson

Saxophone



Saxophonist **Kelly Jefferson** has a Bachelor of Music from **McGill University** in Montreal and a Masters degree from **Manhattan School of Music** in New York City.

Kelly has performed with the **Montreal Symphony Orchestra**, **The National Arts Centre Orchestra**, **The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra**, **Maria Schneider**, **Bill Holman**, **Ray Anderson**, **Phil Woods**, **Clark Terry**, **Michel LeGrand**, **Nicholas Payton**, **Brian Blade**, as well as **Ray Brown**, **Sonny Fortune**, **Renee Rosnes**, **Russell Malone**, and **Dee Dee Bridgewater**, among others.

Kelly has toured extensively in Canada, the United States, Japan, Europe, and China, including a nine-month tour in 2000 as the tenor saxophonist with legendary trumpeter **Maynard Ferguson**.

Kelly has been nominated for Saxophonist of the Year by the **National Jazz Awards** from 2005 to 2008. The **Kelly Jefferson Quartet** is his latest project featuring original compositions that stem from a variety of influences.

Along with trombonist/composer **Kelsley Grant**, Kelly co-leads the **Jefferson-Grant Quintet**, winners of the *Opus* Award for Jazz Album of the Year for their 1999 debut release "*JGQ*". Their second disc entitled "*As One*" was released in June of 2002. The band has performed across Canada and was a nominee at the 2003 **National Jazz Awards** for Acoustic Group of the Year.

Kelly is presently on faculty at **York University** in Toronto, with previous teaching positions at **Humber College** in Toronto and **McGill University** in Montreal.

Mr. Jefferson has also adjudicated at music festivals across Canada and has given numerous workshops throughout Canada, the United States and China.

An active freelance musician, Kelly performs regularly with groups that include the **William Carn Quintet**, **Manteca**, **Emilie-Claire Barlow**, **Time Warp**, the **Artie Roth Quintet**, the **Shuffle Demons**, **Dave Young Quintet**, the **Chris Tarry Group**, **Denzal Sinclair** and **Barry Romberg's Random Access**.