

For Immediate Release

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Music: Jazz Series (improv, free jazz improv)

Third Thursdays contact:

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[Photo of Dave Bryant taken by Daniel Kurganov.]

Third Thursdays



with

Dave Bryant and Friends

a monthly harmolodic
jazz series project
held on site in the
Harvard-Epworth Church

series starts
Thursday, April 21, 2022

hosted by renowned
keyboardist and composer
Dave Bryant,
joined each month
by several of his long-time
musical collaborators from
the Boston area and beyond.

*“David ... play your best,
not as a contest for success.
But a goal for some happy souls.”*
(from Ornette Coleman’s
liner notes for Bryant’s
Shock Exchange album,
released in 1986)

A Harmolodic Project of
Appalachian Springs Foundation

(Cambridge, MA) Keyboardist and composer **Dave Bryant** has many friends. Many who also happen to be notable local, national, and international jazz artists, who have collaborated with Cambridge-based Bryant on different projects over a span of decades.

Those connections began to grow in the early 1980’s, within a year after Bryant completed his formal undergrad studies at Berklee. It was then that he began to study privately with free jazz harmolodics pioneer Ornette Coleman.

During this seven-year student/mentor period, Coleman counselled Bryant not only on his free jazz theories, but also on his personal beliefs in music making. A spirit of camaraderie is a key component of the harmolodic musical process, a process that not only embraces all the players involved, but also extends out to an audience ready and willing to share in a musical approach that is both exuberant and constantly curious.

While studying with Coleman, Bryant recorded a self-titled album in 1986. At the time, his Shock Exchange trio included bassist John Turner and percussionist Chris Bowman. Coleman penned lengthy liner notes for that record, which ended with the following: *“David, John, Chris. To play your best. Not as a contest for success. But a goal for some happy souls.”*

After seven years of mentoring, Coleman then invited Bryant to be the first keyboardist ever to join his Prime Time electric free jazz group. In fact, this move in 1990 marked Coleman's first extended time in decades to collaborate directly with a keyboard instrumentalist.

Coleman, along with his Prime Time's musical approach, challenges both performers and audiences alike. Nevertheless, the likes of Jerry Garcia, Laurie Anderson, Lou Reed, and numerous symphony orchestras were eager to work collaboratively with the Prime Time group of musicians.

During his years with Prime Time, Bryant managed to juggle performing and recording with his own groups as well. And ever since that formative period, he has continued to remain busy and in demand, composing and recording under his own leadership, as well as collaborating on projects initiated by his many international, national, and local musical friends.

And that is what these monthly **Third Thursdays** sessions are all about. An opportunity for local audiences to experience an approach to jazz improvisation that can best be described as fun challenges. An approach that will be played out once a month by host Dave Bryant, who will be drawing from his large pool of many near and far musical friends, all there to enjoy themselves.

*"I'm really looking forward to bringing together
some of my favorite musicians from
the Boston area and from out of town to
create some memorable
musical experiences"*
(Dave Bryant)

All Third Thursday sessions will be held on a regular monthly basis within the acoustically perfect settings located inside the Harvard-Epworth Methodist Church, opposite the Cambridge Common that is adjacent to Harvard Square. Seating capacity will abide by whatever health and safety protocols are in place on any given month. Third Thursdays is a Harmolodic Project of the Appalachian Springs Foundation.

Basic listing info for the series starting in April is as follows:

Third Thursdays with Dave Bryant and Friends: a monthly harmolodic jazz series. Series starts on Thursday April 21, 8:00 pm. The series then continues every third Thursday of each month. Further updates on each month's musical guests can be found at: dbryantmusic.com/third-thursdays/. Admission at the door: \$10. Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, 1555 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138. Contact information: bryantequilibria@gmail.com, 617-447-3030.

Further background information:

Dave Bryant (keyboards) is best known for his work as a member of Ornette Coleman's Prime Time. He joined the band in 1990, touring worldwide and performing on Prime Time's *Tone Dialing* album. Bryant's own first album, *Shock Exchange*, with liner notes by Coleman, was recorded in 1986 with his trio at that time, bassist John Turner and percussionist Chris Bowman. In 1999, Bryant released *The Eternal Hang* with Turner, Bowman, George Garzone, Bob Gullotti, and recording engineer Roger Nichols. That same year he performed on the John Tchicai/Charlie Kolhase Quintet disc, *Life Overflowing*, which was named "Jazz Album of the Year" by Boston Music Awards. In 2015, Bryant released *The Garden of Equilibria*, which features performances by Bryant, performing in a variety of settings, both acoustic and electric, with Tom Hall, Neil Leonard, Curt Newton, Eric

Rosenthal, Jeff Song, and Jacob William. Bryant's most recent recording *Night Visitors* is a 2020 collaboration with bassist Charnett Moffett and percussionist Gregg Bendian, which "finds Bryant adapting the Coleman aesthetic to an intensely personal ripple and rumble piano style." (Mike Hobart, jazz critic for the Financial Times). Jazz journalist Howard Mandel considered *Night Visitor* one of the best jazz albums of 2020. Other credits include performances with Leroy Jenkins, Bern Nix, Eric Person, Badal Roy, Wadada Leo Smith, Jamaaladeen Tacuma, Calvin Weston, and more. Bryant has also performed and lectured in Chicago, San Francisco, Paris, and Istanbul. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he teaches at Longy School of Music of Bard College. dbryantmusic.com

Appalachian Springs Foundation (ASF) is a private foundation located in Charleston, WV. As a nonprofit arts and educational organization, ASF has supported dance, film, music, and educational projects.

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--submitted by marycurtinproductions
(on behalf of Third Thursdays)

c/o Mary Curtin

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