

GARY HARRIS

The young, impressionable Gary Harris became captivated by music and the saxophone after hearing "Pink Panther" played by a saxophonist while in grade school. Further nurturing his new found interest and musical gift, Gary's parents gave him his first instrument - a flute. Harris embraced his instrument with intense passion, and by age 10 received his very own saxophone. During seventh grade Gary participated in his first talent show, a performance which inspired him to create music for people to move to and be moved by. Honing his talents throughout adolescence, Harris gained valuable experience and exposure playing gigs for house parties, store grand openings, local festivals, and musical competitions around his hometown of Atlanta, Georgia. Answering the higher education call, Gary attended Columbus College where he became proficient in the tenor sax and later returned to Atlanta enrolling at Georgia State University & Dekalb College where he played alto and tenor saxophones. Adding to his God-given talents, college strengthened Gary's foundation in music and his instrument of choice.

After his formal education, Harris struck out on his own, showcasing his skills, building his fanbase and reinforcing his musical credibility. With lucrative offers to perform, Gary has participated in national and international festivals including NARNI Black Music Festival (Italy), Montreux Jazz Festival (Switzerland), North Sea Jazz Festival (Amsterdam), Georgia Music Hall of Fame Award Show, Atlanta Jazz Festival, Coca Cola Atlanta Music Awards, and the Benson & Hedges Jazz Festival.

Since early 2000 Harris has performed a mainstay four hour set at Atlanta's Jazz staple, Café 290. His new release ***Here For You*** is out now and Gary will be supporting it with performances throughout the southeast. A testament of what determination, patience, and making one's dream reality is all about, Gary Harris is blossoming to international musician with flair and appeal,

Gary Harris personifies creativity and... All That Jazz!

Openings:

Kim Waters Pieces of a Dream, Norman Brown, Gerald Albright, Will Downing, Bobby Lyle, Phil Perry, Tower of Power, Bo Diddly, The Gap Band, Pamela Williams

Performed With:

Ann Nesby, Sonny Emory, Jean Carn, Sam Sims, William Bell, Morris Pleasure, Percy Sledge, Fred Vigdor, The Coasters, Kipper Jones, Temptations, Mikki Howard, Trudy Lynn, Lin Roundtree, Gwin McCray, Vance Taylor, Leslie Gore, Marcus Williams, Bob Baldwin, Ronnie Garrett, Joey Sommerville, Greg Grainger, Mike Phillips, Eric Essix, Lew Soloff

Influenced By:

John Coltrane, Sonny Stitt, Kirk Whalum, Gerald Albright

Compared To:

Wilton Felder, Kirk Whalum

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