

The Jerry Tolson Quartet

The **Jerry Tolson Quartet** is a Louisville based jazz group that features jazz standards, contemporary originals, and Latin influenced selections. The sound of this group ranges from the feel good, foot tapping, infectious sound of the hard bop era to the contemporary smooth jazz sound of artists such as Grover Washington and Kirk Whalum.

Tolson, who recently retired as professor of jazz studies at the University of Louisville School of Music, is a pianist, vocalist, saxophonist, and composer in the jazz idiom. Tolson's arrangements have been published by UNC Jazz Press. He is known nationally as an expert clinician and has presented clinics and workshops around the United States, in Canada, and in Europe. He is a jazz education clinician and consultant for Excelcia/Kendor Music Publications and a content consultant for Pearson Educational Publications. He is the author of *The Jazz Commandments: Guidelines for Jazz Articulation and Style* (Kendor) and *African American Music: History and Heritage* (Kendall-Hunt). His composition "In the Company of Strangers" was a runner-up in the jazz category of the John Lennon Songwriting Contest in 2001. He has been named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers and was a long-time instructor at numerous summer jazz camps including the prestigious Jamey Aebersold Summer Jazz Workshops. Playing both acoustic and electric piano, Tolson is joined in the quartet by **Natalie Boeyink, bass; Dwight Dozier, drums; and David Clark, alto saxophone.**

The group has been in existence since 1994 and maintains an active performing schedule on the Louisville music scene. The group has headlined the Louisville Jazz Festival, performed on the Kentucky Center for the Arts Jazz Cabaret concert series, and made numerous regional television appearances. They have been the featured artists at numerous regional colleges and universities. A versatile ensemble, they have served as backup for such artists as The Drifters, Leslie Gore, Little Anthony and the Imperials, and Martha Reeves and the Vandellas. They have served as the opening act for jazz artists Eric Reed, Wycliffe Gordon, Pamela Williams, and Mark Whitfield. Members of the group have also worked with, among others, Kevin Mahogany, Benny Golson, Marvin Stamm, Ndugu Chanler, Antonio Hart, Don Braden, Delfeayo Marsalis, Rufus Reid, and James Moody. The group's first CD of all original material, "Nu View", was released in July of 1999. A second CD "Back At The Track" was released in October of 2003. Their CD, "Fresh Squeezed," that features Marsalis, Hart, and Reid was released in 2013. Two more CDs, "Late Night Cruise" and "Black Sand Beach" were released in 2018. Their latest recording "Just Chillin'" was released in fall 2024. The group has toured Europe with performances at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland and the Umbria Jazz Festival in Italy among others and has also completed a performing tour in Barbados.

Dr. Boeyink is a graduate of Indiana University, where she is associate professor of jazz studies. She has made numerous international tours with all female jazz groups and is a nationally recognized expert on female participation in jazz programs. Dozier is a graduate of the Washington State University and is CIO for development at Georgia Tech University in Atlanta, GA. Clark is a graduate of the University of Louisville and is currently director of jazz studies there. He is completing his doctorate at Bellarmine University. He is also in demand as one of Louisville's top professional saxophonists. In addition to his work with Tolson, Clark works with a number of other top Louisville groups and also leads his own trio and quintet.