



The Saxophone Cartel is a progressive, adventurous, energetic and experimental woodwind collective exploring the boundaries of jazz and free improvisation. The unique Cartel sound ranges from jazz to classical to noise to funk to world to blues to free improv — all with humor and passion. Their forward-thinking music lies on the cutting edge of stylistic boundaries, breaking barriers to bring saxophone ensembles into the 21st century.

- April 03 The Sax Cartel was founded at the IU School of Music in Bloomington, Indiana.
- January 2004 The Sax Cartel was a Live From Bloomington 2004 winner and appears on the Live From Bloomington 2004 CD.
- February 2004 Concert with the ROVA Saxophone Quartet.
- April 2004 Concert at the Biennial Conference of the North American Saxophone Alliance.
- April 2005 The Sax Cartel was accepted to play at the North Sea Jazz Festival, but unfortunately was not able to attend.
- June 2005 Production of the Sax Cartel's debut CD "Caught in the Act".
- 2003-2006 Live appearances at festivals and the local radio stations WFHB and WFIU.

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The Saxophone Cartel in detail:

Matt Cashdollar - alto, tenor, baritone, C melody sax, flute, didjeridoo: Matthew Cashdollar is a multi-instrumentalist from Fort Wayne, IN. He attended Indiana-Purdue University in Fort Wayne, receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Instrumental Music Education. Cashdollar then earned a Master's Degree in Jazz Studies at IU-Bloomington, where he played lead tenor in David Baker's Jazz Band. He has played with several groups of varying styles (including jazz, funk, soul, reggae, hip-hop, and modern rock) that have toured Indiana and its surrounding states, including the Freak Brothers and Goza. In July 2005, his Madcap 4 played at the North Sea Jazz Festival in The Hague, Netherlands.

Michael Eaton - alto, tenor sax, clarinet: Michael Eaton is a native of Liberty, Missouri, a suburb of Kansas City. He attended IU-Bloomington from 1999-2004, where he performed in David Baker's Jazz Band. Michael has also appeared with local groups in various genres, including the Bloomington Pops, jazz/rock Monster Zero Orchestra, the Buselli-Wallarab Jazz Orchestra, and others. Michael has performed live in

concert with David Baker, Jim Snidero, Ingrid Jensen, and with Fred Hersch in his collegiate "Leaves of Grass" ensemble.

Morgan Price - soprano, alto, baritone sax, recorder: Morgan Price comes from Rockville, Maryland. He is a senior at IU majoring in Jazz Studies, and performs with David Baker's Jazz Band. He has appeared locally with the Monster Zero Orchestra, IU Soul Revue, the Threepenny Opera, and his own ensembles. Recent projects have included tributes to the music of Charles Mingus and a contemporary jazz quintet with Michael Eaton.

Colin Renick - alto, tenor, baritone sax, bass sax, bass clarinet: Colin Renick is a multi-instrumentalist who performs in a variety of styles. He earned Master's Degrees in Classical Saxophone Performance and Jazz Studies from Indiana University, where he served as an Associate Instructor in both the Jazz and Woodwind departments. Colin has performed with David Baker's Jazz Band, the Buselli-Wallarab Jazz Orchestra, David Sanchez, the Evansville Philharmonic, Goza, the Mustard Cats Dixieland Jazz Band, and the Genkin Philharmonic. He has performed across the United States and in Mexico and Italy.

Peter Sparacino - alto, tenor sax: Peter Sparacino is from San Francisco, California and is a jazz studies major entering his fourth year. Locally he has performed with the IU Soul Revue, Monster Zero Orchestra, Bahama Llama and various small groups in jazz, funk, R&B, and other genres.

For concerts in Europe, the Saxophone Cartel joins forces with founding member

Benjamin Himpel – soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, bass sax: Originally from Berlin, Germany, Ben came to Bloomington in 1998 to pursue a PhD degree in mathematics. He has studied saxophone and Jazz with Gebhard Ullmann, Mack Goldsbury, Mike Zilber, and Uli Lenz among others. He writes and arranges music, and has played in several groups over the past years including the Berlin Youth Jazz Orchestra and the IU Big Bands. He earned his PhD in 2004 and is currently a Postdoc at Bonn University, Germany.

Quotes:

Wonderful group. Original stuff and well played. — Dave Liebman, internationally renowned master saxophonist, improviser, composer, and educator.

The Saxophone Cartel is a joy to experience! Their multidimensional music weaves together sublimely tuneful original compositions, free improvisation, and humor. They even resurrect music by the Six Brown Brothers. This ensemble will make you smile. — Tom Walsh, Assistant Professor of Saxophone and Jazz Studies, Indiana University

Very cool, guys (and girl)! The world needs more people who are willing to break new ground in saxophone ensembles. SATB quartets are great, but the saxophone family can do even more when you bring in a few more players and a few different horns. I look forward to seeing what you do and where you go! — Jay C. Easton, woodwinds faculty at the University of San Diego, multi-multi-instrumentalist, recording artist

You all are one of the best things to happen to Bloomington in 30 years! The concept, execution, and musicianship were all tremendous. I was dazzled. — Jerry Nees, musician

We all enjoyed your set and yes to next year if you are all here...You guys are great and so tight it is scary. — Lee VB, co-organizer of Fourth Street Festival of the Arts and Crafts, Bloomington, Indiana

"Young jazz lions" is a pretty overused term, but what do you do when an entire den storms Bear's Place? — Bloomington Herald-Times, February 12, 2004

For more quotes and press, as well as sound clips and scores, go to:

<http://www.saxcartel.com>