

Chris Riggensch

Bassist Chris Riggensch has been a professional musician for over 20 years. During that time, he has performed with musicians such as Gary Motley, Wycliffe Gordon, Victor Goines, Audrey Shakir, Whitney Marchelle, Ted Howe, Marcus Lewis, Josh Lawrence, The Macon Pops Orchestra featuring Matt Catingub and Steve Moretti, Dwight Andrews, Kayla Taylor, Jose Manuel Garcia, Bob Bakert, Larry Camp, Dan Baraszu, Mike Kelly, Tempest Little Big Band, The 4th Ward Afro-Klezmer Orchestra, Jazz Legacy Big Band, and Gold Sparkle Band. Other performance credits include the musicals, "Catch Me If You Can", "Bonnie & Clyde", "1940s Radio Hour", "Once Upon A Mattress" and "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

Chris has also led his own jazz trios and performed in showbands on various cruise ships around the world. During the ten years he worked on cruise ships, Chris had the opportunity to perform with entertainers such as John Davidson, Christopher Alan Graves, Michelle Shocked, Frank Gorshin, Marcus Anthony and Denny Brunk.

For over five years, Chris was a member of The Gavin Ahearn Trio, a jazz trio featuring pianist Gavin Ahearn and drummer Christian Coleman. They recorded the CD, "Flight of the Arctic Tern" which features Chris' compositions as well as those of Gavin Ahearn and Christian Coleman. Saxophonist Mike Dopazo is also featured on the recording.

Chris has also performed internationally at different cities across the U.S. and Europe. In 2010, he performed in Poland with The Josh Lawrence Jazz 3 featuring trumpeter Josh Lawrence and drummer Mike De Castro. The trio performed at The Sopot Molo Jazz Festival, Piwnica pod Baranami in Krakow, Dwor Artusa in Torun and other jazz festivals. Please check out <http://joshlawrencejazz.com/> for more information about The Josh Lawrence Jazz 3. Chris can be heard on Josh Lawrence's CD, "One Night in Atlanta."

Chris received his Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in jazz studies from Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia. He also worked as a graduate teaching assistant at GSU. Jazz bassists that Chris has studied with include Robert Dickson, Rich Nanista, Neal Starkey and Dennis Irwin. Classical bassists that Chris has studied with include Thomas Thoreson (Atlanta Symphony Orchestra), Ralph Jones (principal bassist, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra) and Dee Moses (principal bassist, Florida Orchestra). Chris studied electric bass with Russ Rodgers.

Currently, Chris is an active freelance bassist and teacher in the Atlanta area and an artist affiliate at Emory University where he teaches jazz bass and directs jazz combos. For more information, please visit <http://music.emory.edu/home/performance/jazz/index.html>.

Chris can also be heard on recordings by the Emory Jazz Faculty and the 4th Ward Afro Klezmer Orchestra.