Brooks Giles

Saxophone, Vocals Seattle, Washington

"I live for the creative process—whether I am on the bandstand with various musicians or at home alone composing music. I also thrive on getting the audience to enjoy the show and leave at the end of a performance feeling better than they did when they arrived."

Of course, being able to pass along the joy of music to others through formal and informal educational opportunities is of great importance and I cherish those interactions greatly.

How long have you been living in the Seattle area? Where were you living before you moved here?

Actually, I haven't officially moved to Seattle. I've lived in Brooklyn, New York for the past twenty years. However, many of those years have been spent abroad touring with my own ensembles and groups led by the late, great bassist/vocalist, Eldee Young and others. I've been fortunate, in the past year, to have spent the majority of my time in the Seattle area which I have definitely fallen in love with! Seattle, like New York, gives me the chance to indulge in a number of my "non-musical passions," such as, enjoying great seafood, rooting for high quality sports teams and spending a great deal of time meditating around large bodies of water.

Are you planning on staying here?

After enjoying the hospitality and graciousness of the wonderful people I've connected with over the past year, I can't imagine not having Seattle as a major part of my life. Ideally, I would like to continue my bicoastal lifestyle, but ultimately, the decision regarding my full time residency in Seattle will depend on the performance and educational opportunities that come my way.

Which internationally respected recording artists have you worked with?

Over the years, I've had the privilege of working with some outstanding musicians and

entertainers including Donald Byrd, Charli Persip, The Drifters, Capathia Jenkins, Mildred Jones, Hui Cox, Ron Affif, Brad Mehldau and Eldee Young to name a few.

What's new with your performance career? Well, I'm really excited about the groups I've assembled here in Seattle over the past year.

The four piece band includes some brilliant, sensitive and versatile musicians. Because these musicians are in such high demand, I'm in the habit of shifting the guitar and bass chairs at times. Working with Vineet John Davidson on guitar, Brian Kirk on drums, along with Douglas

Barnett, Osama Afifi, and Doug Miller on bass has been a wonderful experience. My good friend, New York guitarist and producer Hui Cox, works with us also when he's in town. By the way, Brian Kirk and I performed on numerous gigs in New York and taught for the New York Department of Education while getting our graduate degrees back in the early

1990's. It's been really special to be able to perform regularly with him after so many years. I've also assembled a trio for more intimate gigs.

What's new with your recording career? Tell us about your new/latest recording. Who produced it? Where was it recorded? Who's on it? What's unique about it? Include release date and label. Are any songs getting airplay? Where can it be purchased?

My latest recording is entitled, "Romance De Los Andes:" it was recorded last year in Santiago Chile with The Pancho Aranda Trio: Pancho is an outstanding and very well known pianist from Chile. I had the good fortune of being the featured artist with his group in Santiago for four months. His son Pancho, Jr. is a really fine bassist, and the drummer. Sergio

Gonzalez, is a fiery young talent. Like my first recording, "Somewhere on Earth" (recorded in Bangkok, Thailand a few years ago), the upcoming CD is self-produced: I'm hoping to have it released in the next month. It will be available at all live shows, CDBaby.com, and