

Chester Thompson – drums:

From Jazz (Weather Report), to Rock (Frank Zappa and the Mothers), to Pop (Genesis/Phil Collins) to Gospel (Ron Kenoly), Chester Thompson has surpassed the boundaries of musical genres. Chester's performance and recording experiences have influenced over three decades of music and musicians. Whether playing drum kit or percussion, Chester's masterful subtleties and unyielding time create the firm musical foundation for any musical genre.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, Chester started playing in local nightclubs at age 13. He's not stopped since then and has spent extended periods of time in various musical centers including Los Angeles, CA and London. After a heavy touring schedule in the 1970s, 80s and 1990s, Chester and his family now call Nashville, TN home. Busy with live performances, studio recordings, clinics and writing, Chester's Nashville residence has afforded him more time to invest in students.

Chester's first solo album, A Joyful Noise was released in 1991. He has released a DVD of a performance at the 2003 Paderborn Drum Festival entitled "On the Fly" and another DVD with Luis Conte, "Drum Talk, El Habla Tabor". The latest project, The Chester Thompson Trio, has released two albums, Approved and Simpler Times.

To this day, Thompson is highly regarded for his abilities as a versatile drummer and percussionist, which is why so many legendary performers continually seek out his talent.

You can hear him also on:

"Roxy & Elsewhere," "You Can't Do That on Stage Anymore" (1974) and "One Size Fits All" (1975) with **Frank Zappa** and on "Black Market" (1976) with **Weather Report**. **Genesis**, 1977 to 2007, Live – Albums: Seconds Out(1977), Three Sides Live(1982), The Way We Walk – Vol 1(1992) Vol 2(1993), Live over Europe(2007), and on recordings with **Steve Hackett, Tony Banks, Ahmad Jamal, Santana, Freddie Hubbard and Phil Collins**.

Joe Davidian – Piano:

Joe Davidian began studying classical piano at age six, and with the encouragement of his father, a big band director and music teacher, he started playing jazz at age ten.

He attended the University of Miami in Florida, where he received both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Jazz Piano Performance.

Since that time, Davidian has recorded and performed internationally with his own trio, JD3. He has also performed with Bob Mintzer, Duffy Jackson, Kevin Mahogany, Dave Liebman, Carmen Lundy, John Fedchock, the late Tito Puente, Keb' Mo', Ali Ryerson, Jeff Coffin, the late Lester Bowie, Conrad Herwig, Ira Sullivan, Curtis Lundy, Wycliffe Gordon, Bobby Watson, Joe Lovano, and the late Eddie Calhoun.

Currently, Davidian lives in Nashville, Tennessee, where he continues to perform with some of the greatest living jazz musicians. He also teaches privately, at Belmont University, and at the Nashville Jazz Workshop.

Michael Rinne – e/doublebass:

Michael Rinne is one of Nashville's most promising young musicians!

Playing electric and upright bass, Michael is honored to have already worked with some of the coolest artists/musicians on the planet. Live credits include: Kenny Vaughan, Beegie Adair, Wycliffe Gordon, Conrad Herwig, Jeff Coffin, Michael W. Smith, Julie Roberts, Taylor Hicks, Annie Sellick, Seth Walker, Jill Andrews, Rayland Baxter, Andrew Combs, David "Fathead" Newman, Nashville Jazz Orchestra and the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. Amazingly versatile, he recently completed a world tour with Emmy Lou Harris and Rodney Crowell. In addition to being a sought after live musician, Mr. Rinne has been in high demand as a studio musician having recorded with such artists as; Jack White, Alicia Keys, Caitlin Rose, Kim Richey, Chester Thompson, Andrew Combs, Joey and Rory. Also, Mr. Rinne keeps busy recording with Nashville's premiere studio orchestra the Nashville String Machine.

Chester Thompson:

„The trio started in the summer of 2011. We were the rhythm section for the International Trombone Festival that was being held in Nashville. After a week of playing workshops and concerts several hours a day, we found that we really enjoyed playing together. After that, we played every Monday at a club called the Commodore Lounge for more than a year.

It was difficult to schedule time at first because they are always in demand. Nashville has a nice jazz scene and they are two of the busiest musicians in the city. I am fortunate to play with them.

.....Joe Davidian and Mike Rinne are very young and have a lot of energy but they play with wisdom of musicians twice their age. The musical communication we have is very special, so things happen when we play that we do not have to talk about.

It is nice that after so many years of touring and recording, I am very excited about this band!

Chester Thompson, January 2013“