

Skyler Hagner

Woodwind Multi-Instrumentalist/Composer-Arranger/Educator
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Originally from Guilford CT, Skyler Hagner is a composer, arranger, woodwind player, and educator. Skyler holds a Master's of Music in Jazz Composition and Arranging from William Paterson University and a Bachelor's of Music in Jazz Performance from Temple University. He has had the opportunity to study with Jim McNeely, Tim Warfield, and Norman David.

Under Dr. David's influence, Skyler began composing and arranging. Passion for composition led Skyler to score the 2015 production of the play "For Colored Girls" in Philadelphia, a series of works for jazz ensemble with a speaker, as well as the creation of the Skyler Hagner Quintet and Nontet. In 2017 Skyler was accepted to BMI's Jazz Composer's Workshop, a prestigious community of likeminded arrangers based in NYC. Skyler has written for the BMI Jazz Composer's Orchestra, Wesleyan Flute Fest Orchestra, and the William Patterson Big Band among other ensembles.

Skyler is the recipient of a Jazz Road Tours Grant, a national initiative of South Arts, which is funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation with additional support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Skyler was commissioned by the Guilford Performing Arts Festival through their artist awards program for [Invisible Cities] Humanity, Memory, and Decay - A suite for a Jazz Nonet, which will be premiered at the 2021 edition of the festival. His work has further been supported by Pathways to Jazz and The New England Musicians Relief Fund.

As an educator, Skyler is currently the director of Penn Jazz , and has been an adjunct professor of woodwinds at the University of New Haven. Students of his private studio have been accepted to music programs at Hartt, WesConn, and CMEA festivals. He has conducted masterclasses for programs such as Marquette Park in Chicago and the Screamin' Eagles in Connecticut.

As a musician Skyler has performed or recorded with: Michael Feinstein and the Michael Feinstein Big Band, Waterbury CT Symphony Orchestra & Pops, Lil Kim, Bobby Rydell, Norman David and The Eleventet, Ray Drummond, J.C. Hopkins Bigish Band, George Gee and his Swing Orchestra, Andy Bey, Hailey Reinhart, Jeremy Pelt, Wayne Escoffery, Robin Eubanks, Daud El-Bakara, Jack Wright, Adam Vidiksis, Nicholas Isherwood, Puzzlebox, Donn Trenner, The Shoreline Jazz Collective, The Hartford Jazz Orchestra, The Jack Saint Clair Jazz Orchestra, and the Temple University Big Band, among others.

Skyler has appeared at the following venues or festivals around the United States and abroad: Barclay Center, Wilmington DE Clifford Brown Jazz Festival, Philadelphia Center City Jazz Festival, Litchfield Jazz Festival, SEAMUS, New Music Gathering 2016, Hot Steamed Jazz Festival, Great CT Traditional Jazz Festival, Dizzy's, Minton's Playhouse, Swing '46, The Kimmel Center, M WOODS Museum, Arden Theater, The Painted Bride Performing Arts

Center, The Barnes Foundation, Chris Jazz Café, Plays and Players Theater, The Tropicana, The Mariam Theater, The Mascher Space and many others.