

chris weigers

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dob: 26 December, 1957

Huntington, NY, USA

Profile



A professional musician, bassist, based in New York since 1974. Have performed throughout the United States and internationally.

Private electric and double bass instructor since 1985.

Band Director at private primary and secondary schools in the New York area from 1996 - 2009.

Moved to Uganda in January 2010 serving as a volunteer bass trainer and jazz teacher at Kampala Music School and at M-Lisada Children's Home, Nsambya where I have started a jazz band which continues today. Active fundraising, mentoring and serving on the Board of Directors of M-Lisada Africa Foundation for former street and vulnerable children.

Head of Jazz Department at "Kampala Music School" from January 2012.

Bass instructor and Jazz Ensemble teacher at "Africa Institute of Music", Kampala, Uganda, from January, 2012 . Head of Jazz Department from September 2012.

Also active as performing bassist in Kampala with several artists from 2010 - present.

Experience

As a performer; Electric Bass & Double bass, free lance, New York area - 1974 - 2016 ; Primarily in Kampala 2010 - present. Have performed or recorded a variety of styles and situations over this 42 year period including with jazz greats Makanda Ken McIntyre, John Abercombie, Jaki Byard, Warren Smith, Bob Mintzer, Chris Palmaro(SNL), Russell Ferrante(Yellowjackets), Russ Freeman & Bill Heller,(Rippingtons) Lee Finkelstein(Original Blues Brothers, John Tropea, Steve Cropper), Jason Crosby(Phil Lesh, Robert Randolph), Rob Barraco(The Dead, Phil Lesh), John Scarpulla(Tower OF Power, Diana Ross), Brian Dunne(Hall and Oates,Average White Band), Charlie DeChant(Hall and Oates), Al Pitreli(Alice Cooper, Megadeth).

European tours with bands New York Ska Jazz Ensemble(including festivals such as "Jazz In Marciac") and Eastern Standard Time.

Performances in USA with artists Paula Atherton, Lothlorien, Eclipse,Willie Steel, Jim Pin Band,The Zen Tricksters, Satya.

Also, road companies of Broadway musicals (Hair, Fiddler On The Roof), chamber groups and community orchestras, local theater, and countless others.

In Uganda, performances with Sabar Zibula(including Bayimba, Pearl Rhythm, Nyege Nyege Festivals), Pragmo, Charmant Mushaga, Michael Kitanda, Aduba, Maureen Rutabingwa, Baxma Waves, Lillian Mbabazi, Qwela.

Leader, conductor, arranger of Kampala Big Band Jazz. In Tanzania performed with Dar Choral Society - Dar Es Salaam,(orchestra).

BAND DIRECTOR, PAUL EFFMAN MUSIC SERVICE, SYOSSET, NEWYORK, USA - 1999 -

2009 This job entailed instruction of traditional band instruments - flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, & drums as well as violin while directing primary and secondary school bands for performances. Ages ranged from 3rd grade through 12 grade. The system saw us instruct one day per week at each school either during the school day or after regular school hours. As a result I was responsible for teaching at 8 different schools per week.

PRIVATE BASS INSTRUCTION, SELF EMPLOYED, LONG ISLAND, NEWYORK -1985-2010

One on one bass instruction, both double bass (NYSSMA levels 1 -6) and electric bass. Students, aged 10 - 76, were taught to be proficient in reading music, instrumental technique, jazz concepts, music theory, composition, arranging, and performing in a group situation.

COUNTRIES PERFORMED IN:

USA, Canada, Mexico, Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Poland, Czech Republic, Serbia, Hungary, Sweden, Netherlands, Belgium, Lithuania, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Bolivia, Turkey, Uganda, Tanzania.

SELECTED RECORDINGS:

as a leader: Chris Weigers "HORIZONS" 2004; ArushA "LOOK UP" 2007
as sideman: Lothlorien (eponymous) LP 1980; Lothlorien "SPACES" LP 1983;
James Ingenito "RHYTHM ROOM BLUE" 1995; Willie Steel "REAL STEEL" 1996 ; "BRIAN MOORE ENDORSING ARTISTS" w/The Jim Pin Band & others 1998; Joe Gil "BREATH DEEPLY" 2008; Victoria Faiella "WILD BUTTERFLY" 2011; Joel Cook "GETTING THERE..." 2012; Charmant Mushaga "AFRICAN LOVE" 2014; DOA DOA '15 "COMPILATION"; Sabar Zibula "THE JOURNEY" 2015

EDUCATION:

State University of New York, College at Old Westbury BA Performing Arts (American Music - JAZZ studying with Makanda Ken McIntyre, Richard Harper, Sinclair Acey, James Jabbo Ware, Warren Smith)/ second major - Politics, Economics and Society. graduated 1982.
SUNY Stony Brook, masters credits in Social Studies education 1990 - 92///
Bass instruction with Richard Davis John DeWitt, Dave Holland

SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook - Chris Weigers, Sabar Zibula, KMS Jazz Band, M-Lisada Kampala

YOUTUBE LINKS:

- 1) Song For Bilbao - with Pragmo & Kitanda - <https://youtu.be/q1K7hQ1cBAc>
- 2) Is It You - with Positive Change Band - <https://youtu.be/UZ-xDWyWx9w>
- 3) Afropenzi - w/Charmant Mushaga - <https://youtu.be/17PZeCfkill>
- 4) Nawe Osobola - Sabar Zibula - <https://youtu.be/bFuJF8eEBHk>
- 5) Saama Dome - Sabar Zibula - <https://youtu.be/lpebocqWuX0>
- 6) Jim Pin Band 2012 - Kid - Cuz - Black Cow - <https://youtu.be/mc8JazWXYQg>
- 7) Boulevard East - Can't Buy Me Love - <https://youtu.be/BESStJwDIJA>

REFERENCES:

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