

Rudresh Mahanthappa

Alto Saxophonist



"definitely one of the strongest voices on the jazz scene" – *All Music Guide*

"Mahanthappa's chops are practically unparalleled. . . making music unlike anything else in the city today. This kind of elevation and refinement is not simply a cut above the norm; it arguably redefines the norm." – *AllAboutJazz.com*

"Mahanthappa displays a visceral tone and a grab-you-by-the-collar attack that dares the listener to turn away. [A] talent to keep a steady eye on." – *The New Yorker*

Guggenheim fellow and **2009 Downbeat International Critics Poll Winner** ("Rising Star-Jazz Artist" and "Rising Star-Alto Saxophone") Rudresh Mahanthappa is one of the most innovative young musicians and composers in jazz today. Named **Alto Saxophonist of the Year for 2009** by the Jazz Journalist Association, Rudresh has incorporated the culture of his Indian ancestry and has fused myriad influences to create a truly groundbreaking artistic vision. As a performer, he leads/co-leads seven groups to critical acclaim. His recent release for Pi Recordings ***Kinsmen*** featuring Carnatic saxophone legend Kadri Gopalnath (September 25, 2008) has been named one of the **Top Jazz CDs of 2008** by numerous news sources including the *New York Times*, NPR, BBC, *Boston Globe*, slate.com, *JazzTimes*, and the *Village Voice* to name just a few. His previous quartet release for Pi release ***Codebook*** (September 26, 2006) was named one of the Top Jazz Albums of 2006 by the *Village Voice*, *JazzTimes*, and *The Denver Post* and received rave reviews from *Downbeat*, *wired.com* and *Science Magazine*. In Europe, ***Codebook*** received the esteemed "CHOC DE L'ANNÉE" (album of the year) for 2007 in France's *Jazzman*, 4 stars in the UK's *Jazzwise*, and received the "Bollino di Marzo" from Italy's *Musica Jazz*. As a saxophonist, Mahanthappa



has achieved international recognition performing regularly at jazz festivals and clubs worldwide. As a composer, Rudresh has received commission grants from the Rockefeller Foundation MAP Fund, American Composers Forum, Chamber Music America, and the New York State Council on the Arts to develop new work. Mahanthappa holds a Bachelors of Music Degree in Jazz Performance from Berklee College of Music and a Masters of Music degree in Jazz Composition from Chicago's DePaul University. He now teaches at The New School University. Rudresh Mahanthappa currently lives in New York where he is clearly regarded as an important and influential voice in the jazz world. Rudresh K. Mahanthappa uses Vandoren reeds exclusively. Mahanthappa is also a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow.

Awards/Commissions:

Guggenheim Fellow in Music Composition (2007)

New York State Council on the Arts Grant (Parakram, 2007)

Urban Artist Initiative Grant (Parakram, 2007)

New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow in Music Composition (2006)

American Composers Forum CCP Grant (Indo-Pak Coalition, Joe's Pub of New York, 2006)

New York State Council on the Arts Grant (Indo-Pak Coalition, Joe's Pub of New York, 2006)

CMA New Works Creation and Presentation Grant (Rudresh Mahanthappa Quartet, 2006)

Rockefeller MAP Grant (Dakshina Ensemble, Asia Society of New York, 2004)

New York State Council on the Arts Grant (Rudresh Mahanthappa Quartet, Jazz Gallery of New York, 2004)

New York State Council on the Arts Grant (Rudresh Mahanthappa Quartet, Jazz Gallery of New York, 2002)

American Composers Forum CCP Grant (Rudresh Mahanthappa Quartet, Jazz Gallery of New York, 2002)

Rockefeller MAP Grant (Raw Materials, Jazz Gallery of New York, 2002)

Rockefeller MAP Grant (Manodharma Trio, Jazz Institute of Chicago, 2001)

Selected Discography:

As a leader:

Apti (2008) innova, The Indo-Pak Coalition

Kinsmen (2008) Pi Recordings, The Dakshina Ensemble



The Beautiful Enabler (2008) Clean Feed, Mauger

Codebook (2006) Pi Recordings, Rudresh Mahanthappa Quartet

Raw Materials (2006) Savoy Jazz, Raw Materials Duo

Mother Tongue (2004) Pi Recordings, Rudresh Mahanthappa Quartet

Black Water (2002) Red Giant Records, Rudresh Mahanthappa Quartet

Yatra (1996) AEMMP Records, Rudresh Mahanthappa Quartet

WEB

www.rudreshm.com

www.myspace.com/rudreshm