

VICTOR BAILEY GROUP



BIO

Without doubt, **VICTOR BAILEY** belongs to one of the greatest bass players of our time.

He not only plays the bass but also arranges and composes songs for many musicians and bands.

With his own group Victor tours the world with tremendous success.

His music might be considered as post-funk-jazz.

In any case, it's inspiring, funky and extraordinary groove!

Since the late seventies, as a teenager, Victor Bailey has been hailed as one of the worlds greatest bass guitarists. He gained international recognition in the early nineteen eighties when he joined the innovative jazz fusion supergroup Weather Report. He has made three of the most highly acclaimed solo records ever by any bassist. As a studio musician he has played on over one thousand records. He has toured and recorded with artists as diverse as Joe Zawinul, Mary J. Blige and Madonna.

He recorded and toured with artists like Weather Report, Weather Update, Steps Ahead, Bill Evans, The Zawinul Syndicate, Madonna, etc...

Influences:

Stanley Clarke, Alphonso Johnson, Jaco Pastorius, Larry Graham, Joe Zawinul, Wayne Shorter, Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, John Coltrane, Stevie Wonder.

Victor Bailey, already hailed as one of the world's greatest bass players as a teenager, stormed the music scene back in the early eighties when, as a nineteen year old fresh out of school he joined the innovative jazz fusion giants, Weather Report. He immediately became a major player on the world music scene.

He was also a member of another jazz fusion innovator, the legendary band Steps Ahead. As a studio musician he has appeared on over one thousand recordings. Those recordings range from Joe Zawinul to LL Cool J to Mary J Blige. As a bassist he has

appeared with an astounding array of artists from all genres, such as Sonny Rollins, Wayne Shorter, Micheal Brecker and The Joe Zawinul Syndicate. During the nineties he took a huge leap into the pop world as bassist for megastar Madonna.

He has now released three highly acclaimed solo records "**Low Blow**", "**That's Right**", "**Bottom's Up**", „**Slippn' N' Trippin'**„, which one major music magazine called arguably the best solo record ever by a bass guitarist. He is currently residing in Brooklyn New York. He is touring as a leader, working with the trio CBW, which features Larry Coryell on guitar and Lenny White drums. And he is constantly busy writing for various movie and television projects.

Michael "Patches" Stewart (trumpet):

Thus far, Michael "Patches" Stewart's role as a trumpeter has been primarily to fill in for the late Miles Davis. Playing muted with Marcus Miller, Stewart can often sound very close to Davis during the latter trumpeter's later years. He became a professional when he was 16, making his recording debut that same year on a Patti LaBelle record. Stewart has since worked with Quincy Jones, David Sanborn, George Duke and Whitney Houston, and he spent eight years as part of Al Jarreau's backup band. From the mid '90's on, Stewart's most notable association has been with Marcus Miller in a band that sounds eerily like Miles Davis' final group. In addition to his recordings with Miller, Michael Stewart has recorded his own dates for the Hip Bop label.

Kris Bowers (keys):

Kris Bowers, a native of Los Angeles, began studying piano privately at the age of nine. Beginning his formal lessons in classical music, Kris found it hard to concentrate on just one genre as he was surrounded by the sounds of old school R&B and Funk at home, and the Hip- Hop and Pop of his generation. Immersed in this musically diverse world, Kris soon found himself attracted to the rhythmic and soulful feeling of Jazz. He then enrolled in both classical and jazz classes at the Colburn School for Performing Arts, where he remained until the end of high school. While at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts (LACHSA), Kris received numerous awards, accreditations and scholarships, and in 2006, he graduated from LACHSA and moved to New York to continue his studies at the Juilliard School.

Since his arrival in New York, Kris has shared the stage and/or recorded with jazz artists such as: Terell Stafford, Vincent Herring, Louis Hayes, Casey Benjamin, and Kenneth Whalum III. In addition, he has continued working in a number of other genres, performing and/or recording with: Murs, Q-Tip, Josè James, Jay-Z and Kanye West. Kris can be heard on Kanye West and Jay-Z's latest album, Watch the Throne. He has also had the good fortune to perform for notable individuals like Clint Eastwood, Morgan Freeman, Ayaan Hirsi Ali, and President Barack Obama.

Most recently, Kris was the winner of the 2011 Thelonious Monk Institute International Piano Competition, where he caught the attention of judges: Jason Moran, Herbie Hancock, Danilo Perez, Renee Rosnes, and Ellis Marsalis. He is currently attending Juilliard to earn his Masters degree in Jazz Performance, with a focus on film composition, and while there has studied privately with Eric Reed, Fred Hersch, Frank Kimbrough, and Kenny Barron.

Aside from playing, Kris has been composing various styles of music including but not limited to jazz, classical, film music, rock and electronic. "There are far too many brilliant composers and musicians in all genres to remain closedminded," Kris says, "I refuse to filter the artists that inspire me whether it be jazz, classical, rap, hip-hop, rock, electronic, film, or whatever else I find myself listening to these days." Kris is currently forming his own band and will be releasing his debut album on Concord Records next year.