## Bennett Paster Bio (Really Short Version 1/2014)

Keyboardist, composer and producer Bennett Paster is one of New York City's most creative and versatile musicians. He has performed original music at clubs, concerts and festivals in the United States, the Caribbean, South and Central America, Central and South Asia and throughout Europe. He has been a featured performer with jazz stars Wallace Roney, Keb Mo, Robben Ford, Kurt Elling, Rufus Reid, Bill Stewart, Billy Hart, Albert "Tootie" Heath, Ndugu Chancler and Yosvany Terry among others. Paster's current primary projects as a leader are: *The Bennett Paster Group*, an acoustic quintet which performs his broad-based jazz and Latin-jazz compositions and *Bennett Paster's Funktet*, a hard grooving band which showcases his formidable abilities on vintage electric keyboards and Hammond organ. He is also in-demand as a sideman and studio session musician, regularly performing and recording in NYC. Paster was a finalist in the 2008 Jacksonville Jazz Piano competition, held annually in Jacksonville, Florida.