

Bennett Paster

Keyboardist, Composer & Educator

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Bio (one paragraph version)

“Paster's hands have an infectious percussive exuberance.”

(Dan McClenaghan , AllAboutJazz.com March, 2005)

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, and throughout Europe. He has been a featured performer with jazz stars Kurt Elling, Brian Lynch, Peter Bernstein, Rufus Reid, Bill Stewart, Billy Hart, Albert “Tootie” Heath, Ndugu Chanler, Miri Ben-Ari and Yosvany Terry among others. In addition to co-leading *Paster, Ryan e³ Hall* and *Grupo Yanqui*, Paster co-leads the funky psychedelic organ trio *Organic!*, 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. “My diverse musical background contributes to my personal style,” Paster said. “I thrive playing in many contrasting groups; I can’t choose just one style of music. My colleagues appreciate the broad palette of styles in which I am conversant. I always try to find the most appropriate sound to bring to any song or project. My motto is: serve the song.”