

The Temple Jazz Orchestra



The **Temple Jazz Orchestra**, founded and directed by **Thomas Fairlie**, is in residence at Temple College in Temple, Texas. TJO emerged from the natural growth of the jazz program at Temple College between 1990 and 2005. Founded in 1990, what began as a collaboration of students and adult musicians from the area has metamorphosed into the premier jazz ensemble in central Texas.

TJO now boasts the best professional jazz musicians and educators from an area surrounding Temple, including musicians from Waco, Killeen, Belton, Austin, San Antonio, Round Rock and other communities. TJO members are committed to jazz education, performance and scholarship, and serve as clinicians and adjudicators, directing other ensembles or performing with their own groups.

The Temple Jazz Orchestra, its members, and/or small ensembles that have spun off from the group have received recognition at several nationally known jazz festivals, including the UNC Greeley Jazz Festival, the Loyola University (New Orleans) Jazz Festival, the Sam Houston State Jazz Festival and others. The featured band at the final concert of the Temple Jazz Festival for the past 15 years, TJO has performed with **Marvin Stamm, Bob Mintzer, Russel Ferrante, Eric Marienthal, Allen Vizzuti, Bill Watrous, John Fedchock, Kevin Mahogany, Gary Foster, Ernie Watts, Lew Soloff, Frank Mantooth, Wayne Bergeron, Gordon Goodwin**, and others.

TJO has also shared the stage on several occasions with the Temple Symphony Orchestra. The Temple Jazz Orchestra was invited to perform at the IAJE Southwest Regional Conference at Baylor University on April 16th, 2005, and performed with **Bill Watrous** at the IAJE Convention in New York City on January 12, 2007. TJO is scheduled to play a series of concerts in Europe (including the legendary Montreux Jazz Festival and North Sea Jazz Festival) in July 2009.

The Temple Jazz Orchestra released its first compact disc recording "Soft Lights and Sweet Music, Live" to critical acclaim in the spring of 2001. **TJO's** second CD, "Bill Watrous Live with the Temple Jazz Orchestra", was released on October 3rd of 2004, and its third CD, "This Is TJO", featuring original works by several band members, was released in March of 2006. TJO's fourth CD, "Temple Jazz Orchestra Featuring Gordon Goodwin" was released in September 2008.