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Jazz Listings

By THE NEW YORK TIMES
Published: January 18, 2008

JAZZ

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★ **GABRIEL ALEGRÍA AFRO-PERUVIAN SEXTET** (Sunday and Tuesday) On his sharp new album, “Nuevo Mundo” (Saponegro), the trumpeter Gabriel Alegría teases out affinities between modern jazz and the African-influenced coastal music of his native Peru. His aptly named group benefits from the presence of Freddy Huevito Lobatón, a percussionist as well as a dancer in the zapateo style. Sunday at 9:30 p.m., Joe’s Pub, at the [Public Theater](#), 425 Lafayette Street, at Astor Place, East Village, (212) 539-8778, joespub.com; cover, \$20, with a two-drink minimum. Tuesday at 7 p.m., Cachaça, 35 West Eighth Street, Greenwich Village, (212) 388-9099, cachacajazz.com; cover, \$10, with a \$10 minimum. (Nate Chinen)

ANIMAL FORUM (Sunday) This young collective has an almost gleeful approach to free improvisation; its members are the Canadian saxophonist Peter Van Huffel, the Swiss trombonist Samuel Blaser and the Israeli drummer Ziv Ravitz. At 8:30 p.m., Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia Street, West Village, (212) 989-9319, corneliastreetcafe.com; cover, \$8, with a one-drink minimum.

(Chinen)

JONATHAN BATISTE TRIO (Friday) Jonathan Batiste hails from a tradition of poised and percussive New Orleans pianists, and fits the bill on both counts. He also has a blatant crush on [Thelonious Monk](#), a solid rhythm section and a relevant self-released album: “Live in New York: At the Rubin Museum of Art.” At 7 p.m., Rubin Museum of Art, 150 West 17th Street, Chelsea, (212) 620-5000, rmanyc.org; \$20. (Chinen)

KARL BERGER QUINTET (Saturday) The vibraphonist and pianist Karl Berger pays a rare visit from Woodstock with a quintet featuring Ingrid Sertso on vocals, Kenny Wessel on guitar, Kermit Driscoll on bass and Tim McLafferty on drums. At 8 and 10 p.m., the Stone, Avenue C and Second Street, East Village, thestonenyc.com; cover, \$10. (Chinen)

DAVID BERKMAN GROUP (Monday) Mr. Berkman is a capable pianist, and his compositions tend to be both smart and sturdy. His post-bop quartet consists of the alto

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saxophonist Antonio Hart, the bassist Ugonna Okegwo and the drummer Otis Brown III. At 10:30 p.m. and midnight, Smalls, 183 West 10th Street, West Village, (212) 675-7369, smallsjazzclub.com; cover, \$20.

(Chinen)

CINDY BLACKMAN QUARTET (Monday) An explosive yet mindful drummer, Cindy Blackman leads a funk-seasoned post-bop band with J. D. Allen on saxophones, Carlton Holmes on keyboards and George Mitchell on bass. At 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., Jazz Standard, 116 East 27th Street, Manhattan, (212) 576-2232, jazzstandard.net; cover, \$20. (Chinen)

BROOKLYN JAZZ UNDERGROUND FESTIVAL (Friday and Saturday) The Brooklyn Jazz Underground is a coalition of younger artists united by aesthetics as well as geography; this is its second annual festival aimed at those who still seek out their music fix in the West Village. Friday's offerings include working bands led by the tenor saxophonists Dan Pratt and Jerome Sabbagh, and the drummer Sunny Jain; Saturday night's headliners are the bassist Alex Cuadrado, the drummer Ted Poor and the violinist Tanya Kalmanovitch. At 8 and 10 p.m. and midnight, Smalls, 183 West 10th Street, West Village; smallsjazzclub.com or brooklynjazz.org; cover, \$20. (Chinen)

EDMAR CASTANEDA TRIO WITH JOE LOCKE (Tuesday and Wednesday) The imaginative Colombian harpist Edmar Castaneda augments his attentive rhythm section with a special guest: Joe Locke, a vibraphonist capable of balancing showmanship with heart. At 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., Jazz Standard, 116 East 27th Street, Manhattan, (212) 576-2232, jazzstandard.net; cover, \$20. (Chinen)

KRIS DAVIS QUARTET (Wednesday) Kris Davis, an up-and-coming pianist and composer, convenes a patiently exploratory group with Jeff Davis, her husband, on drums; Ron Horton on trumpet; and Eivind Opsvik on bass. At 10 p.m., Barbès, 376 Ninth Street, at Sixth Avenue, Park Slope, Brooklyn, (718) 965-9177, barbesbrooklyn.com; suggested donation, \$10. (Chinen)

JOEY DEFRANCESCO TRIO (Thursday) The Hammond B-3 organ doesn't have a more effective evangelist than Joey DeFrancesco, whose soulful working trio features Jake Langley on guitar and Byron Landham on drums. (Through Jan. 27.) At 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., Jazz Standard, 116 East 27th Street, Manhattan, (212) 576-2232, jazzstandard.net; cover, \$25. (Chinen)

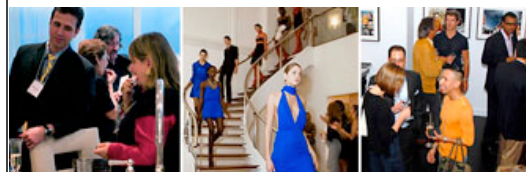
ELDAR (Tuesday and Wednesday) The gifted young pianist Eldar Djangirov has a recent album, "re-imagination" (Sony), that reflects his interest in electro-acoustic fusion; it will be among the contenders for best contemporary jazz album at the 2008 Grammy Awards. At 8 and 10:30 p.m., Blue Note, 131 West Third Street, West Village, (212) 475-8592, bluenote.net; cover, \$25 at tables, \$15 at the bar, with a \$5 minimum. (Chinen)

ELIANE ELIAS TRIO (Tuesday through Thursday) "Something for You: Eliane Elias Sings and Plays Bill Evans," released on Blue Note this week, puts Ms. Elias, a Brazilian pianist and vocalist, in the good company of the bassist Marc Johnson and the drummer Joey Baron. She understands the harmonic language of Bill Evans, perhaps the most important prerequisite for the task. (Through Jan. 27.) At 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, Frederick P. Rose Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, 60th Street and Broadway, (212) 258-9595, jalc.org; cover, \$30, with a minimum of \$10 at tables, \$5 at the bar. (Chinen)

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JOHN ESCREET GROUP (Monday) Lately, John Escreet, an English keyboardist in his mid-20s, has begun finding his place in the New York jazz landscape. Here he leads a cadre of his peers, most of whom are a few steps ahead of him: the trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire, the alto saxophonist Lars Dietrich, the bassist Matt Brewer and the drummer Tyshawn Sorey. At 7 p.m., 55 Bar, 55 Christopher Street, near Seventh Avenue South, West Village, (212) 929-9883, 55bar.com; no cover. (Chinen)

AL FOSTER BAND (Friday and Saturday) The well-traveled drummer Al Foster has a lithe touch, ideal for modern jazz and more than suitable for funk; this engagement is timed to coincide with his birthday, and will no doubt feel like a celebration. At 8 and 10 p.m. and midnight, Sweet Rhythm, 88 Seventh Avenue South, at Bleecker Street, West Village, (212) 255-3626, sweetrhythmnyc.com; cover, \$20, with a \$10 minimum. (Chinen)

FREESTYLE JAZZ (Sunday) In the first set of this avant-garde series, the trumpeter Ben Holmes leads a pugnacious quintet; the second set involves a quartet anchored by the drummer Andrew Drury, with Peter Evans on trumpet, Briggan Krauss on alto saxophone, and Chris Speed on tenor saxophone and clarinet. At 7 and 9 p.m., Jimmy's Restaurant, 43 East Seventh Street, East Village, (212) 982-3006, freestylejazz.com; cover, \$10, with a one-drink minimum. (Chinen)

★ **CURTIS FULLER BAND** (Friday through Sunday) Mr. Fuller, a trombonist with a full tone, a bluesy sensibility and a celebrated history in hard bop, enlists resourceful sidemen for a belated birthday engagement. Among them are the drummer Carl Allen, the bassist Rufus Reid, and on trumpet, either Wallace Roney (Friday and Saturday) or Randy Brecker (Sunday). At 8:30 and 10:30 p.m., Iridium, 1650 Broadway, at 51st Street, (212) 582-2121, iridiumjazzclub.com; cover, \$35, with a \$10 minimum. (Chinen)

RODNEY GREEN QUARTET (Friday and Saturday) Rodney Green is a dynamic and intuitive drummer who has made his name backing post-bop heavyweights, like the bassist Ron Carter and the pianist Mulgrew Miller, who join him here. Lage Lund, an introspective but impressive young guitarist, rounds out the group. At 9 and 11 p.m., Cachaça, 35 West Eighth Street, West Village, (212) 388-9099, cachacajazz.com; cover, \$20, with a \$10 minimum. (Chinen)

JOEL HARRISON STRING CHOIR (Saturday) The compositions of the drummer Paul Motian can convey shadowy depths even as they echo the simplicity of folk songs. Here they benefit from arrangements by the guitarist Joel Harrison for a string sextet that includes Mr. Harrison's fellow guitarist Liberty Ellman, the violist Mat Maneri and the cellist Dave Eggar. At 9 and 10:30 p.m., Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia Street, West Village, (212) 989-9319, corneliastreetcafe.com; cover, \$10, with a one-drink minimum. (Chinen)

KONCEPTIONS AT BISCUIT (Tuesday) This installment of the Brooklyn series features two bands led by drummers: the Dan Weiss Group, an ensemble partly informed by Indian classical traditions, and Third Wheel, which features the trumpeter Ralph Alessi and the guitarist Ben Monder, along with the versatile drummer Ted Poor. At 8:30 and 9:45 p.m., Biscuit BBQ, 230 Fifth Avenue, at President Street, Park Slope, (718) 399-2161, myspace.com/konceptions; cover, \$5, with a \$6 minimum.

(Chinen)

LATIN JAZZ GIANTS (Tuesday through Thursday) This project of the percussionist Johnny Rodríguez Jr. features former members of the [Tito Puente](http://tito-puente.com) Orchestra and a repertory drawn from the glory days of the Palladium Ballroom. The giants in the title may be present only in spirit, but that shouldn't pose much of a problem. (Through Jan.

26.) At 8:30 and 11 p.m., Birdland, 315 West 44th Street, Clinton, (212) 581-3080, birdlandjazz.com; cover, \$30 and \$40, with a \$10 minimum. (Chinen)

LIONEL LOUEKE (Wednesday) Mr. Loueke, a guitarist and vocalist, favors a beguiling form of modern jazz informed by the music of his West African homeland, Benin. His excellent trio, with the bassist Massimo Biolcati and the drummer Ferenc Nemeth, appears on two strong albums for the ObliqSound label, and on a forthcoming Blue Note debut. At 7:30 p.m., Joe's Pub, at the Public Theater, 425 Lafayette Street, at Astor Place, East Village, (212) 539-8778, joespub.com; cover, \$15, with a two-drink minimum. (Chinen)

★ **BRAD MEHLDAU** (Saturday and Tuesday through Thursday) Mr. Mehlau has established himself as one of the standout jazz voices of his generation, partly through a recent run of intensely lyrical solo piano recitals. His solo concert on Saturday is sold out, but there should be a chance next week to see his exceptionally good trio, which features Larry Grenadier on bass and Jeff Ballard on drums. Saturday at 8 p.m., Washington Irving High School, 40 Irving Place, Manhattan, (212) 586-4680, pscny.org; sold out. Tuesday through Thursday at 9 and 11 p.m., Village Vanguard, 178 Seventh Avenue South, at 11th Street, West Village, (212) 255-4037, villagevanguard.com. (Through Jan. 27.) Cover, \$20, with a \$10 minimum (limited admission to 11 p.m. shows only). (Chinen)

MIKE MELVOIN TRIO (Friday and Saturday) Mike Melvoin, an accomplished pianist, composer and arranger with extensive history in the Los Angeles studio realm, leads a trio with the responsive rhythm team of Tony Marino on bass and Bill Goodwin on drums. At 8 and 10 p.m., Kitano Hotel, 66 Park Avenue, at 38th Street, (212) 885-7119, kitano.com; cover, \$25, with a \$15 minimum.

(Chinen)

VICTOR PRIETO TRIO (Wednesday) The [Astor Piazzolla](#) war horse “Libertango” is a too obvious inclusion on “Persistencia” (Foxhaven), a recent album by the dynamic jazz accordionist Victor Prieto, but there are also numerous originals, on which Mr. Prieto engages winningly with the bassist Carlo DeRosa and a sensitive drummer, in this case Ted Poor. At 9:30 and 11 p.m., Smalls, 183 West 10th Street, West Village, (212) 675-7369, smallsjazzclub.com; cover, \$20. (Chinen)

MARC RIBOT (Thursday) Mr. Ribot is a vagabond poet on solo electric guitar, as he proved five years ago with the album “Saints” (Atlantic). Here he plays solo (early set) and in a duo with [Laurie Anderson](#) on violin, vocals and keyboards. At 8 and 10 p.m., the Stone, Avenue C and Second Street, East Village, thestonenyc.com; cover, \$10 per set. (Chinen)

PETE ROBBINS (Friday and Wednesday) On Friday in the West Village Mr. Robbins, an alto saxophonist and clarinetist, leads Centric, the electro-acoustic band featured on his last two albums. On Wednesday he embarks on a trio expedition with Mario Pavone on bass and Tyshawn Sorey on drums. Friday at 9 and 10:30 p.m., Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia Street, West Village, (212) 989-9319, corneliastreetcafe.com; cover, \$10, with a one-drink minimum. Wednesday at 8 p.m., Barbès, 376 Ninth Street, at Sixth Avenue, Park Slope, Brooklyn, (718) 965-9177, barbesbrooklyn.com; cover, \$10. (Chinen)

ADAM ROGERS QUARTET (Friday and Saturday) Adam Rogers is a guitarist known for hard-driving precision, but his last album, “Time and the Infinite” (Criss Cross), revealed his more reflective side. He seems likely to reach for the same tone with this quartet, with Mark Turner on tenor saxophone, Matt Brewer on bass and Clarence Penn

on drums. At 9 and 10:30 p.m., Jazz Gallery, 290 Hudson Street, at Spring Street, South Village, (212) 242-1063, jazzgallery.org; cover, \$15; \$10 for members. (Chinen)

JENNY SCHEINMAN (Tuesday) Ms. Scheinman is the rare jazz violinist who embraces her instrument's folksier side without making concessions to genre. Her weekly gig involves a rotating cast of players; in this installment the guitarist Steve Cardenas and the drummer Rudy Royston. At 7 p.m., Barbès, 376 Ninth Street, at Sixth Avenue, Park Slope, Brooklyn, (718) 965-9177, barbesbrooklyn.com; cover, \$10. (Chinen)

MIKE STERN TRIO (Monday) The guitarist Mike Stern has a goofily titled recent album - "Who Let the Cats Out?" (Heads Up) - that features the quite serious electric bass playing of Richard Bona. Here Mr. Bona rejoins Mr. Stern in a trio with the drummer Lionel Cordew. At 10 p.m., 55 Bar, 55 Christopher Street, near Seventh Avenue South, West Village, (212) 929-9883, 55bar.com; cover, \$15. (Chinen)

CEDAR WALTON TRIO (Friday through Sunday) As a pianist and composer, Cedar Walton heeds an articulate, almost courtly variety of hard bop. His trio here features David Williams on bass and Joe Farnsworth on drums. At 8, 10 and 11:30 p.m., Smoke, 2751 Broadway, at 106th Street, (212) 864-6662, smokejazz.com; cover, \$28. (Chinen)

NATE WOOLEY / HARRIS EISENSTADT (Monday) Mr. Wooley, a trumpeter, and Mr. Eisenstadt, a drummer, take turns appearing in each other's experimentally inclined bands. Both favor the sound of vibraphonists; Matt Moran plays in Mr. Wooley's quartet at 9 p.m., and Chris Dingman appears in Mr. Eisenstadt's quintet at 10 p.m. At Spike Hill, 184 Bedford Avenue, at North Seventh Street, Williamsburg, Brooklyn, (718) 218-9737, myspace.com/spikehillnyc; cover, \$5 a set.

(Chinen)

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