

The Louis Romanos Quartet

Louis Romanos

769 Whitehall Rd ~ Athens, Ga 30605

www.louisromanosquartet.com

sonamormusic@gmail.com

01-770-289-9009



The Louis Romanos Quartet was originally founded in New Orleans by percussionist and composer, Louis Romanos. After hurricane Katrina flooded New Orleans in 2005, Mr. Romanos relocated to beautiful Athens, Georgia. The music that Mr. Romanos composes reinterprets both traditional and modern jazz. Interweaving Latin, bebop, and New Orleans street beat rhythms with profound melodies creates a playful, rhythmically driven, compelling sound. The future of LRQ is perpetually unfolding. Mr. Romanos is currently planning the second LRQ album while working on string arrangements of his music to bridge the jazz and classical worlds in search an even more compelling sound.

LRQ tours the mainland U.S.A. in the Southeast and North West regions, Hawaii and Europe. They recently released their debut album, ***Take Me There***, in 2015. The LRQ features Dan Sumner on guitar, Alex Noppe on trumpet and Luca Lombardi on acoustic bass. They performed double duty at the 2013 Maui Jazz Festival, performing both as LRQ and backing up Tommy James of the Duke Ellington Orchestra. The LRQ also scored and performed live movie syncing for Edison's Elekrisches Theater at Werkstatt für Kunstprojekte in Leipzig, Germany.

As educators, the LRQ are in the process of creating a sustainable music education program in Maui and Oahu. They are working closely with the Makana Aloha Foundation and AECG to bring music to Maui and Oahu. On the mainland, the LRQ regularly perform music clinics at universities, high schools and elementary schools. In Europe Mr. Romanos gives clinics on American music and New Orleans drumming. We believe educating young people on music will help them be better students and lead more fulfilling lives.



Louis Romanos studied percussion under Idris Muhammad, Johnny Vidacovich and Art Perretta. At nineteen he moved from Connecticut to go to the birthplace of Jazz, New Orleans, to study music and philosophy. Louis has since performed and recorded with a number of renowned musicians including Tommy James (Director of the Duke Ellington Orchestra), Gene Bertoncini, Steve Masakowski, Chuck Leavell, Keith Richards, John Mayer, Charles and Cyril Neville, Al Hirt, Dave Easley of Brian Blade's Fellowship Band, Charlie Miller of Dr. John's band, Jazz Legend Earl Turbinton, Mark Mullins of Harry Connick Jr.'s Band, Tricia Boutte, Marva Wright and Dave Anderson of the Louisiana Philharmonic and many, many more.

As a composer, Louis writes for live bands, dance, TV, video games, indie movies and commercials. Louis co-wrote and released three albums with Dan Sumner as **Permagra**. Permagra performed in SXSW music conference, the NOW music festival, the

New Orleans Jazz Fest, the Indy Jazz Fest, the Boom Boom Room in San Francisco, and were nominated for best electronica band in New Orleans in 2005 Big Easy Awards. They also performed clinics at universities on the use of sample and MIDI technology in live settings. In 2004, Permagra licensed **Classical** to the documentary movie, **Plane Spotting**. In 2005, Louis was commissioned to write 5 works for the **Confederacy of Dances** performance in New Orleans at the Contemporary Arts Center. Louis's music has been featured several times on National Public Radio and WTUL, WWNO, and WWOZ radio. In 2006, Louis wrote "Light Waves" for visual artist and Chicago producer, Nancy Bechtol, and together they have a work on Culture T.V.

Louis also composed about a dozen pieces for CENTER, a collaborative project between visual artists and composers, in Los Angeles, California. In 2010 Louis was commissioned to arrange his composition, **Take Me There**, for the University of Monroe guitar ensemble. Additionally, his composition, **Tyco at the Gates** was licensed to the major motion picture, **Cool it**.

Recent credits include scoring live theater (**The Bakkhai**), video games (**The Dark Ages of Titan**, **Corpse Wagon**), the modern ballet (**Interior Borders** by choreographer, Joan Buttram, at University of Georgia) and recording drums on the new theme song for the Squidbillies on Cartoon network.

Currently, Mr. Romanos leads and writes for his own quartet, The **Louis Romanos Quartet** (www.louisromanosquartet.com), which released its debut album, **Take Me There**, in 2015. His quartet performs concerts and clinics in the mainland USA and in Hawaii. Mr. Romanos recently developed a workshop for Brenau University's Dance Department teaching dancers basic music and communications skills need for cross discipline collaboration. Mr. Romanos is scoring the full-length feature film, **Above the Fruited Plains**, creating a dystopian futuristic score for the web series, **Odessa**, and composing new works for **The Mirari Brass Quintet**. Website:

<http://sonamormusic.com/works/>

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Daniel Sumner is an accomplished guitarist with many national and international tours and recordings to his credit including a recent performing tour of Hawaii and a 2012 West Coast, Texas and Louisiana tour with the Louis Romanos Quartet, a 2012 tour of Hawaii with the Cypress Park Jazz Quartet and an appearance on Jeremy Davis and the Fabulous Equinox Orchestra's critically acclaimed newest recording, *The Great American Swagger*. An East Coast tour and a return visit

to Hawaii with the Louis Romanos Quartet and an extensive tour of the American South with Jeremy Davis and the Fabulous Equinox Orchestra are on the books for the first half of 2013. Sumner is also currently working on the production and recording of several arrangements of jazz standards and American popular songs for solo jazz guitar.

His playing can be heard on more than a dozen recordings including the three critically acclaimed releases from the New Orleans based group Permagrafin. He took first prize in the professional division at the University of Texas-Brownsville International Guitar festival in 2009 with the McPike/Sumner Duo. New Orleans was his home for 13 years during which he performed regularly in the clubs and led the jazz band at Lusher Charter School, an arts-based

magnet school. He has toured worldwide with several acts including Permagrafin, the Louis Romanos Quartet, Glyn Styler, and Jesus Christ Superstar.

He is the Assistant Professor of Music Education and Guitar at the University of Louisiana at Monroe and holds degrees from Capital University and the New England Conservatory of Music. He is currently in the final stages of completion of a Doctorate of Music Education from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. Daniel Sumner is a sponsored Benedetto Artist and plays a one-of-a-kind custom 16B arch top jazz guitar hand-built by Bob Benedetto. He plays AER amplifiers and uses Thomastik-Infeld strings.

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Alex Noppe is the Director of Jazz Studies at Boise State University. He has a Doctorate of Music in Brass Literature and Pedagogy from Indiana University and has conducted research in body language and stage presence in instrumental musicians. Noppe previously completed a Masters of Music at Indiana, studying with John Rommel, Anthony Plog, and David Baker, and holds dual bachelor degrees in Trumpet Performance and Jazz Studies from the University of Michigan, where he studied with William Campbell, William Lucas, Ellen Rowe, and Dennis Wilson. Prior to coming to Boise State in 2013, he taught at the University of Louisiana Monroe, Indiana State University, DePauw University, and Indiana University.

Noppe has performed with ensembles across the country, including the Charlotte Symphony, Columbus Indiana Philharmonic, the Lansing Symphony, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Indianapolis Opera,

Shreveport Symphony, Lafayette Symphony, Green Bay Symphony, Jackson Symphony, and Bach Collegium. Additional performing credits include the Indianapolis Jazz Orchestra, Hal Leonard Jazz Orchestra, David Baker Big Band, and the Buselli Wallarab Jazz Orchestra. He recently returned from a tour of Thailand with the Black Bayou Brass and performed at the Maui Jazz Festival with the Louis Romanos Quartet. In addition to being a founding member, Noppe is the resident

composer/arranger for the Mirari Brass Quintet, which performs numerous concerts each year to audiences across the United States. He has appeared on stage alongside Eric Alexander, Chris Potter, Hank Jones, Wycliffe Gordon, the Count Basie Orchestra, Sylvia McNair, Byron Stripling, John Clayton, Leonard Slatkin, and Garrison Keillor.

Noppe has been featured as a soloist with the Green Bay Civic Symphony, Performing Arts Institute Wind Ensemble, Indiana University Singers, ULM Symphony Orchestra, ULM Jazz Ensemble, and was the solo "cellophonist" on David Baker's Concerto for Cell Phones and Orchestra with the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra. He has been a performer or clinician at the International Association of Jazz Educators Conference, the Big XII Trombone Conference, and the Louisiana Music Educator's Association Convention. From 2004 to 2010 he served as Director of Jazz at the Performing Arts Institute summer music festival and also has taught at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay Summer Music Clinics. In addition to numerous compositions and arrangements written for the Mirari Brass, he has had works premiered by the Arbor Brass Choir, University of Michigan Jazz Ensemble, and the Baton Rouge Honor Jazz Ensemble. Recording credits include Smack Dab in the Middle from John Clayton and the Hal Leonard Jazz Orchestra, Celestial Dancers by the Philharmonia a Vent, and William Bolcom: Songs of Innocence and Experience, which won three Grammy awards in 2006. He can be heard on numerous recordings from the Hal Leonard Music Company and is featured on recent releases from the Mirari Brass Quintet and the Wave Mechanics Union .

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Luca Lombardi holds degrees in double bass performance from the Conservatory "Giuseppe Verdi" of Milan, Italy. Currently, he is earning a Doctor of Musical Arts in double bass performance at the Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia. He serves as assistant to Dr. Milton Masciadri for the UGA Study Abroad in Italy and plays with the UGA Wind Ensemble directed by Dr. John P. Lynch & Dr. Cynthia Johnston Turner.

Mr. Lombardi regularly performs more than 120 concerts per year on regional, national, and international stages. He performs with jazz artists such as Steve Dancz, Louis Romanos, Dave D'Angelo, Rand Lines, and Jeremy Rogers. He is an active performer in Italy, France, Switzerland, Russia, Armenia, Kazakhstan, and the United States of America.

Mr Lombardi frequently attends Masterclasses artist such as Branford Marsalis, Massimo Moriconi (Jazz) Paolo Costa (Pop) Alberto Bocini (Conservatory of Geneve), Klaus Stoll (Berliner Philharmonic Orchestra), Francesco Siragusa (Teatro Alla Scala), Giuseppe Ettore (Teatro Alla Scala), Thomas Martin (London Symphony Orchestra), Thierry Barbè (Opera National de Paris), Jeff Bradetich (University of North Texas College of Music), Timothy Cobb (Metropolitan Opera Orchestra), Davide Botto (Principal Theatre Regio of Torino).

He has performed with several ensembles and orchestras, including Ensemble '900, Theatre "La Scala" (cameristi), "Universita' degli studi di Milano" Orchestra, "Orchestra Filarmonica Italiana", "Pomeriggi Musicali", "la Scala Accademy" Orchestra, "G. Verdi" Orchestra, Augusta Symphony Orchestra. He had the opportunity to perform in orchestras that backed up artists such as Herbie Hancock, Lang Lang, Shlomo Mintz and others and he has played under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel.