

Lewis Porter  
Jazz Pianist & Keyboardist

The critics rave: **“A HELLUVA PIANO PLAYER” (Jazz Times). “(Lewis Porter plays) with a lively glitter and amazing sense of assurance.” “Mixing experimental with traditional, (he) plays up a storm.” “Porter is a deep thinker (whose music is) founded upon depth and cunning use of space.”**

Lewis Porter is a jazz pianist and keyboardist (Yamaha Motif synthesizer, 76 keys). Known for a free and open attitude, he can contribute to any type of musical situation. His own groups swing like mad, taking a loose, open attitude to standard tunes and to Porter's own original compositions. Porter has appeared in concert with jazz masters such as Wycliffe Gordon, Ravi Coltrane, Joe Morris, Marc Ribot, George Garzone, Mark Dresser, Gerry Hemingway, Don Friedman, Alan Dawson, Joe Cohn, Gregg Bendian and many others.

Porter is available for booking in any of the following formations:

- Solo piano and/or synthesizer
- The Lewis Porter Trio: featuring hot new drum star Rudy Royston (of Javon Jackson, Bill Frisell; special mention by Nate Chinen in *Jazz Times*, Best Gigs of 2006)
- The Lewis Porter Trio + Special Guest Artist: i.e. saxophonist Jeff Coffin (of Bela Fleck's Flecktones)
- With a cooperative fusion group of Indian music and jazz, featuring tabla master Badal Roy and guitar virtuoso Vic Juris
- As a single artist, guesting with local jazz talent. Recent engagements have seen Porter fronting local rhythm sections in Boston, at the University of North Texas, in Siena (Italy), Leeds (UK), Finland (November 2007), and so on.

Porter, a noted jazz scholar, often amplifies his concert appearances with separate appearances as a guest lecturer, or as the leader of workshops and master classes. He's a popular teacher: lively, witty, and possessing an encyclopedic knowledge of jazz music and history. On the next page is a listing of some of Porter's recent programs.

Porter's playing knows no stylistic boundaries. His 2007 engagements include performances with:

- Wycliffe Gordon (mainstream jazz and standards)
- Ravi Coltrane (free treatments of standards)
- Joe Morris, Daniel Carter (free improvisations)
- Dave Liebman (John Coltrane tribute concert)
- Jeff Coffin of the Flecktones (Jeff's original pieces)
- Badal Roy and Vic Juris (Indian ragas/scales)

**TO SCHEDULE PERFORMANCES, WORKSHOPS and/or LECTURES BY LEWIS PORTER, CONTACT:**

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**Lewis Porter: A Few Representative Lectures and Workshops**

“Jazz and World Music,” and “Jazz, Race, and Authenticity,” University of Amsterdam, 11/07

“The State of Jazz Scholarship—Myths That Persist,” Keynote speech, International Conference, Helsinki, Finland, 11/07

John Coltrane lecture, and concert with Furio DiCatri and Fabrizio Sferra (recorded and released on the Altrisuoni label); Siena Jazz Workshop, Siena, Italy, 7/06

“Charlie Parker on Film and Television,” Milan, Italy, 7/14/05

Speaker at Coleman Hawkins Symposium, Columbia University, 11/9/04

Lecture, “Recent Coltrane Discoveries,” William Paterson University, 12/8/04 and 12/14/05 (annual lecture summarizing new research)

Panelist, “Monk and Coltrane,” International Association of Jazz Educators convention, Manhattan, 1/13/06

Master class, “Performing free improvisations” for students at New England Conservatory, with Daniel Carter, 11/30/05.

Lecture-demonstration on “free improvisations,” performing and talking with Daniel Carter, Boston University, 12/1/05

Lecture, “The Hidden Sources of Coltrane's Compositions,” Berklee College of Music, Boston, 12/1/05.

Session Chair, Historic Brass Society conference, “Early Twentieth-Century Brass Idioms: Art, Jazz and Other Popular Traditions,” co-sponsored by the IJS, 11/5/05

Lecture/presentation, “Rare Dave Brubeck on Film,” Emory University, 10/4/02

Lecture, “Myths About Jazz History,” S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook (Stony Brook Jazz Festival), 5/13/02

“The Future of Jazz,” Panel Discussion (with Donald Byrd, Jon Hendricks, and A.B. Spellman), Congressional Black Caucus annual convention, Washington, D.C., 9/14/00

Two-day residency including a concert and three classes: “Jazz Player's Workshop,” “Myths of Jazz Historiography,” and “Thoughts on Human Emotion and Music,” Williams College, Mass., 11/2-3/99