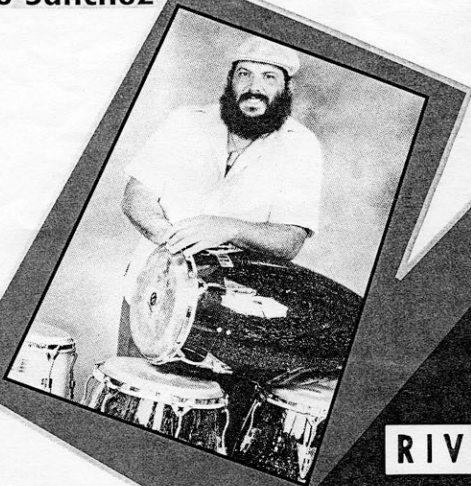


Serving as leader of one of the worlds hottest Latin Jazz groups, Poncho Sanchez has gained international attention as an artist. Playing in venues throughout the United Kingdom, Europe and Japan, the highly sought after musician is one of the preeminent conga players in the world. Holding an average of one album per year since the recording of his first Concord Picante album Sananda (1982), the modest Poncho holds close to his band which is composed of seven talented musicians. Among them include: Ramon Banda (timbales), Tony Banda (bass), David Torres (piano), Jose Rodriguez (bongos), Scott Martin (sax), Alex Henderson (trombone), and Sal Crocchiolo (trumpet).

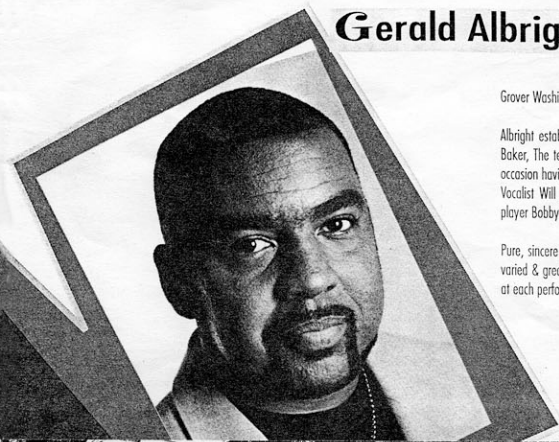
Born the youngest of 11 children, Poncho grew up in Norwalk, CA listening to the music of legendary artists Santamaria, Machito, Eddie Palmieri, Willie Bobo, Tito Puente, Clare Fischer, and the man who was to become his mentor Cal Tjader. By the time the self-taught musician was 17, he was playing with local bands. In 1975, Cal Tjader received word of Poncho's remarkable conga talent and asked him to become a member of the Tjader band. For eight years Poncho toured with the band recording over 14 albums. The close-knit musical and personal relationship lasted until Tjader's untimely death in 1982.

Poncho has received three Grammy nominations for Bien Sabroso, Chili Con Soul, and A Night at Kimball's East. His most recent release, Soul Sauce: Memories of Cal Tjader, pays homage to his close friend, mentor and prime source of musical inspiration. The group has performed on television shows, including: The Today Show, Charles Kurall's CBS Sunday Morning, BET's Jazz Central and appeared as part of an all-star band on David Letterman's Anniversary Show. The energy and allure of his live performance has taken audiences by storm. The greatly demanded ensemble offers listeners an unforgettablely soulful experience filled with excitement.

Poncho Sanchez



Gerald Albright



Saxophonist Gerald Albright has carved out a niche that's all his own. Albright's distinct brand of soulful improvisation has been a hit with contemporary jazz fans since his Atlantic recording in 1988. Then, in 1991, he recorded an album of mostly jazz standards titled "Live at Birdland West" and an audience of jazz "purists" discovered his unique talents. By 1992, Albright was acknowledged as perhaps the "first saxophonist since Grover Washington Jr. to spark dual appeal.

Albright established his reputation as a hornman for playing sweet melodies working behind vocalists such as Anita Baker, The Temptations, Olivia Newton-John, Ray Parker Jr. and Marlene Shaw. He still plays the role of sideman on occasion having toured with Whitney Houston in 1993. He was also a part of the 1995 tour known as Jazz Explosion. Vocalist Will Downing Jr. & Rachell Farell were on the bill along with guitarist/singer Jonathan Butler, keyboard player Bobby Lyle and Drummer Michael White, of Earth Wind and Fire.

Pure, sincere & intelligent, Albright's saxophone rings true repertoire never abandons the qualities that defines jazz as varied & great. The familiarity of his contemporary melodies and the daring of his improvisation instincts come together at each performance as never before.

Sunday Line up

- 2:15 Darrell Louis Morgan and 360* Jazz Band
- 3:30 Steve Reid's Bamboo Forest
- 5:00 Average White Band
- 6:30 Norman Brown
- 8:15 Gerald Albright with Lalah Hathaway

Norman Brown whose creative yet accessible style mixes together jazz with R & B, got off to a strong start with his very impressive debut "Just Between Us". Appearing in concerts in Germany, England & Japan, the multifaceted musician perfectly fuses the two sounds to provide an earful of delightful music.

Norman Brown

England & Japan, the multifaceted musician perfectly fuses the two sounds to provide an earful of delightful music.

Saturday Line up

- 3:15 Art Of Sax
- 4:30 Keiko Matsui featuring Paul Taylor
- 6:00 Cassandra Wilson
- 7:30 Richard Elliot
- 9:00 Poncho Sanchez

Richard Elliot



Richard Elliot's distinguishing personality and voice connects with his audience on various levels. For years the tenor saxophonist has honed his repertoire of contemporary instrumentals comprised of vibrant R&B grooves and poignant ballads. Not content to merely recycle his winning formula which has earned three consecutive #1 albums, the Glasglow, Scotland-born, Los Angeles-raised artist's delves into traditional jazz and likes to explore his Celtic roots as demonstrated on his last release "City Speak."

Elliot never chose the obvious path along his career route. A fan of rhythm and blues growing up, Elliot landed his first gig as a musician when just a teenager, touring one summer with Natalie Cole and The Pointer Sisters. Afterwards, Elliot joined Kithhawk, a cutting-edge fusion group. While still just a flourishing musician, Elliot was drafted to record with some of his Motown favorites including Smokey Robinson, The Four Tops and The Temptations. One project lead to another as Elliot was recruited to play on the Yellowjackets second album. During a year-long hiatus from the Yellowjackets, Elliot embarked on a road trek with Melissa Manchester and occasionally sat with the legendary Tower of Power. The famed horn ensemble asked Elliot to be a full-fledged member in 1982.

Deciding it was time to move on, Elliot left Tower of Power in 1987 to devote his full attention to a solo career. His first five collections were issued by Enigma Records, while the three most recent packages were the Blue Note Records logo ("After Dark," "Soul Embrace" and "On the Town"). Album after album, Elliot established himself as a leader in the contemporary jazz field with each solid musical offering. Tour after tour, Elliot proved to audiences that he is also a preeminent performer. Scheduling over 100 concert dates per annum, Elliot has meshed with audiences throughout the world through his dynamic, no holds-barred performances.

RIVERSIDE
JAZZ &
ART
FESTIVAL 96



Darrell Louis Morgan and 360* Jazz Band

Darrell Louis Morgan in recent years, his mastery of music composition greatly assisted in catapulting the worldwide tour of the acclaimed dramatic play, "The Diary of Black Men", to award-winning status. As Music Director/Principle Composer of the score, entitled "Relationships", he single-handedly managed to harness indescribable emotional realms through his music and breathlessly carries all who listen, to another dimension.

Today, he is the driving force behind the hottest musical phenomenon on the West Coast. His focus is directed solely on the sounds of his 360 Jazz Quartet. It is his profound love and undying respect for creative expression which continually keeps Darrell swept up in a current of electrical frenzy of sound, rhythm and melody.