



PAUL JENKINS - BOP Co - Artistic Director | Jazz Trumpeter | Composer | Music Producer | Arranger | Musical Director | Educator

Paul has led an impressive career of over 44 years as a jazz musician (Trumpet), composer, arranger, music producer and educator. He began his formal training, aged 10, as a chorister at Southwark Cathedral, London. At the age of 12, he began his trumpet studies with Dick MacPherson and at 18 as a student at *London College of Music* with William Lang (LSO Principal Trumpet). He studied composition with Michael Ragan and jazz arranging with Tony Kingsley. Paul graduated with a GLCM (Hons), LLCM in Trumpet performance, ALCM in Piano performance and in 1988 he obtained a Post-Graduate Certificate in Education at *Middlesex University*.

Paul's vast wealth of experience and musical expression has enabled him to bring a rich and diverse selection of musical styles to his creative compositional works and musical projects, allowing him to cover a wide spectrum of musical styles. Paul has worked with numerous Jazz and pop artistes, vocalists, musical theatre performers, bands and musicians and has created dance and musical theatre scores and compositions for theatre directors, choreographers, scriptwriters and film makers, both nationally and internationally.

Although classically trained, Paul found his passion for expressing his creative flair through the jazz idiom, which led to his compositional work and the formation of his own Jazz Ensemble **The Paul Jenkins Quartet**. The quartet developed its own unique style of original compositions, recording and performing over a number of years at renowned London venues, *Ronnie Scotts, The Jazz Cafe, The Vortex, The Royal Festival Hall and The Barbican Centre*. Eager to continue his musical journey and creative expansion, Paul formed an entirely different band **JEMWA** [*Mango Records*]. The band, a collective of multi-national instrumentalists and composers, successfully fusing Western Contemporary music styles with African Music. Paul has held a very active role in the *World Music Scene* as a horn section leader with bands: **Abana, Zouk International and Alfia** and collaborated with Iranian musician and composer *Farnoosh Behzad*, developing an approach that fused Jazz with Iranian Folk music, culminating in major performances at *The Royal Festival Hall*.

Paul expanded his musical experience and aptitude to the commercial side of the music industry and in 1996, founded his own Music Production Company **Third Eye Music Productions Ltd** in partnership with **Stepping Stone Studios** in North London. As the director and producer, Paul and his team achieved a wide and varied portfolio, which has included; dance music productions, commercial pop productions, musical theatre productions and film & dance collaborations and worked with a great variety of commercial recording artists and companies including: *The Honeyz, Natalie Imbruglia, Lamar, Alison Jiar, Juliet Roberts, Chris Standring, Mike McEvoy* [*Curiosity Killed the Cat*], *Chris Ballin* [*Soul to Soul*], *J Kay* [*Sony Records*] *Island Records, BBC Radio 3 & 4, Jazz FM*.

Paul's extensive knowledge and creative impetus has established him with the reputation for creating innovative and exciting musical theatre compositions. In 1999, he re-arranged and orchestrated the complete score for the Broadway hit musical *Inner City Jam*. The production premiered at the Cockpit Theatre, London. Paul received rave reviews for his achievements to bring an original, innovative and fresh style of composition to British Musical Theatre.

Other musical theatre projects include co-producer & composer for the RnB musical **'White Folks - A Musical Fable'**. performed at *The Nottingham Playhouse*, leading to a London concert at *The Cochrane Theatre WC1, The Tricycle Theatre and The Pleasance Theatre, London*.

Paul's music commissions include the score for the small screen film *Fascination for Flight*, original score for the theatre production *Lucifer Saved* written by Author Peter Oswald, original score for the stage production of *Oliver Twist* - for Giant Olive Productions, original score for the theatre production *Zoo* written by Author Ray Shell, original dance score *Scent of a Rose* - for Klaipeda Theatre, Lithuania. For Dance Theatre commissions include *One* for Perpetual Motion Theatre Company, *Trilogy D' Jazz* for Elmhurst Theatre Group, *Synchronicity* for Norwegian Choreographer Janna Kristiansen. He continues to write numerous musical scores and soundscape for independent film and media companies in the UK and Europe, which includes library music for use in all areas of the entertainment industry.

As a creative artist of jazz music, Paul has become an innovator bringing a new approach to music composition that is specifically for jazz dance theatre. In 1999, he became Co-Artistic Director of the UK's premier Jazz Theatre Company **Body of People** aka **BOP Jazz Theatre** in partnership with Choreographer and Creative Jazz artist - *Dollie Henry MBE*. BOP has created and produced an array of original jazz theatre productions and concerts that have been performed both in the UK and internationally. Productions include *Touches of Miles*, *Sacred Space*, *Trumpet Trilogy*, *Dizzy Heights*, *Dukes Place*, *Echoes of Ellington*, *A Journey of Jazz*, *Miles Ahead* and *Spirit of Jazz*. As Musical Director both freelance and with BOP, Paul has worked with some of the UK's finest jazz musicians including, *Julian Siegel*, *Jason Yarde*, *Jay Phelps*, *Nathaniel Facey*, *Neil Charles*, *Shane Forbes*, *Jo Caleb*, *Graham Harvey*, *Gareth Williams*, *Dave Newton*, and jazz vocalists *Claire Martin OBE* and *Julie Dexter*.

Paul has established the **BOP Music Production and Artist Development**; a wing of the company devised to produce and create real opportunities for young and established jazz and commercial music artists to further their musical careers as creative and performing artists. Paul continues to share his vast experience of the music industry as a music producer, composer and arranger and singer/songwriter, working in all aspects of the pop and commercial sector. He has produced female vocalist *SuElise Nash*, formerly of the UK pop band *Mis-Teeq*, Australian RnB/Pop artists/singer-songwriters *Adam Saunders & David Denis (Prince of Thieves)*, *Chardel Rhoden* and many up-and-coming UK and international vocal artists.

Paul is the co-author of the dance book *The Essential Guide to Jazz Dance*, published by **Crowood Press** (Oct 2019). This unique book is delivered for Jazz Dance and its inherent partner, jazz music, and offers a practical guide and insight to the history, lineage, practice and creative expression and so much more of jazz dance art form. **The Essential Guide to Jazz Dance, Dollie Henry & Paul Jenkins** can be purchased direct from Crowood Press.

<https://www.crowood.com/collections/dance/products/the-essential-guide-to-jazz-dance-by-dollie-henry-paul-jenkins>

In January 2022, **BOP Company** launched and continues to lead, the new *Member Lead Network Jazz Theatre Arts UK (JTAUK)*, partnering with **One Dance UK** to advocate, advance and align greater visibility and delivery for our UK Jazz Theatre Arts and Artists and all practices of the form within our British Dance sector. The Network produces Talk Programs, Seminars and offers emerging jazz artists opportunities to develop and perform through the networks creative initiatives.

Aside of all his commitments, in May & June 2023, Paul produced, devised and delivered through BOP, the inaugural event of **Jazz Arts Rewired**. Presenting an arts program dedicated to support, shape and serve UK Jazz Theatre Arts & Artists. The event brought together professional jazz masterclasses, Jazz Seminars, Guest Artist and Creative Panel Jazz Talks and a celebratory performance evening of UK Jazz Dance Theatre, Music and creative artists with **'Up Close & Personal'**. The events were all held at The Place, London and solidify a new creative and ongoing partnership between **BOP, The Place and One Dance UK**.

Education is a large part of Paul's life and creative delivery to the next generations. He was invited to the Music Division at Richmond College to devise and implement a BTEC National Diploma in Performing Arts and played a key role on the management team and the subsequent restructuring of the Richmond Music Trust. He devised and developed a comprehensive jazz program, which included all aspects of the Improvisers Art and founded the Richmond Youth Jazz Orchestra and Richmond Youth Jazz Ensemble, alumni include *Jo Caleb, Quentin Collins, Andrew McCormack and Mike Olatuja*.

Paul continues to teach and lecture jazz composition, music performance and music technology in schools and colleges world-wide, which also included resident practitioner with the Music Department at Reeds School, Cobham, leading Reeds Youth Jazz Ensemble and Reeds Big Band Jazz Orchestra and currently Music composition and music technology at Esher Music College, Surrey.

As a Music technologist and recording Producer, Paul continues to deliver practical recording and music technology workshops and lectures. Paul's extensive experience within the recording industry has allowed him to consult in differing areas of Commercial Recording. These include consultant for educational establishments providing music technology access and provision, individual lessons on Computer based programs, Logic Pro, Pro-tools and Sibelius and continues to deliver recording workshops on a one-to-one basis.

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