



Ryan Keberle

Trombonist - Composer

Few musicians have managed to navigate the richly varied avenues of New York City's abundant music scene with the same passion and adaptability as trombonist and composer Ryan Keberle. Hailed by the *New York Times* as a "young trombonist of vision and composure", Keberle's diverse talents have earned him a place alongside a staggering array of legends, superstars, and up-and-coming innovators.

Leading his pianoless quartet Catharsis or arranging for the little big band setting of his Double Quartet, Keberle draws upon lessons learned playing alongside masters of a multitude of forms, from jazz legends to indie rock ground-breakers, R&B superstars to classical virtuosos. He has toured with the acclaimed indie rock songwriter **Sufjan Stevens** and with the ground-breaking big bands of **Maria Schneider** and **Darcy James Argue**; he has accompanied soul hitmakers **Alicia Keys** and **Justin Timberlake** as well as jazz legends **Rufus Reid** and **Wynton Marsalis**; he's been heard on movie soundtracks for filmmakers like **Woody Allen** and in the pit for the Tony-winning Broadway musical "In the Heights." Keberle's own music integrates those wide-ranging experiences into a highly personal jazz language that pays heed to tradition while searching out fresh and original pathways.

Born and raised in Spokane, Washington, Keberle was surrounded by music from an early age. Both of his parents were music educators: his father a jazz trumpeter and professor at Spokane's Whitworth University; his mother a piano teacher and longtime church music director. Keberle started out by studying classical violin and piano before adopting the trombone as his primary instrument; classical music remains one of the many components of his arsenal, as he continues to perform with brass chamber ensembles. He also followed in his mother's footsteps, serving as music director at a Manhattan Catholic church for several years.

Keberle moved east to study at the **Manhattan School of Music**, where he came under the tutelage of renowned trombonist **Steve Turre**, as well as composers **Mike Abene** and **Manny Album**. He was the sole member of his graduating class chosen to receive the **William H. Borden Award** for musical excellence in jazz. In May 2003, Keberle became a member of Jazz at Juilliard's first graduating class, having studied with **Wycliffe Gordon** and **David Berger**, whose big band he has worked with over the ensuing years.

In 2007 Keberle released the self-titled debut of his Double Quartet, a malleable, brass-heavy octet that showcased his deft composing and arranging skills. The band's second disc, *Heavy Dreaming*, was released in 2010 and garnered rave reviews and slots on year-end lists from magazines like *JazzTimes* and *Stereophile*.

Early 2012 marked the debut of Keberle's latest group, the pianoless quartet Catharsis, comprising some of the music's most compelling young voices: **Mike Rodriguez** (trumpet), **Jorge Roeder** (bass), and **Eric Doob** (drums). On *Music is Emotion*, their 2013 debut release, described as "a potent blend of cinematic sweep and lush, ear-grabbing melodies" by the *Los Angeles Times*, Keberle's writing for the band reveals his more melodic and emotional side on pieces driven by groove, the blues, and Latin jazz, with which all four members have extensive experience. Keberle has worked with the **Pedro Giraudo Jazz Orchestra** and with Brazilian superstar **Ivan Lins**, and was named Latin jazz trombonist of the year by the Latin Jazz Corner website in 2008 and 2009.

Both his own compositions and his arrangements of works by other composers evidence Keberle's expansive tastes, which encompass Duke Ellington, The Beatles, Sufjan Stevens, and Ravel, among countless others. His work in the indie rock world, including a world tour with Stevens, has provided the newest fork in what has been an unpredictable career. It has also afforded him the chance to return to the piano, as he has with the singer/songwriter **Nedelle Torrisi** of the band **Cryptacize**. But he has also performed with the **Saturday Night Live house band** and with "Family Guy" creator **Seth MacFarlane**. His music has taken him to venues across the globe, throughout Asia, Australia, Europe, and North and South America.

The sum of these eclectic travels creates his distinctive, original voice. Whether performing in any one of these vastly different contexts or leading his own band, Keberle continues to evolve into one of the most intriguing and vital musicians of his generation.

Artist Website

www.ryankeberle.com

Greenleaf Music

+ 1 773 888 3610

help@greenleafmusic.com

www.greenleafmusic.com

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