

John Nugent

Producer & Artistic Director

Rochester International Jazz Festival
PAETEC Music Tour
Stockholm Jazz Festival

John Nugent—musician, producer, and president/CEO of NY JAM, INC. grew up in Newfoundland.

As a young boy he watched his grandfather import and sell musical instruments at his family's hundred-year old business.



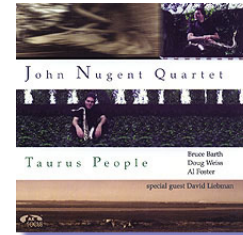
"He always said, 'treat people the way you would want them to treat you.' And I carry that wisdom with me always," says Nugent.

Mr. Nugent may have great taste in music, but the 44-year old promoter is blessed with business sense as well.

In 1990, John Nugent astounded the Canadian jazz scene with the independent release of his recording debut "Did I Tell You." That album resulted in critics comparing him favorably to tenor giant Sonny Rollins. Unlike Rollins or any other aspiring jazz saxophonist before him, Nugent plays all four members of the saxophone family (soprano, alto, tenor and baritone). Additionally, Nugent can switch straight ahead from mainstream jazz work as showcased on the "Did I

Tell You" album, to the stylish hot R&B contemporary jazz flavors of his self-titled Jazz Inspiration debut. This album features the track "Penny for My Thoughts", one of the biggest Canadian instrumental radio ads in 1993.

Nugent graduated from St. Francis Xavier University in 1982 with a diploma in Jazz Studies. From there he attended the Banff School of Fine Arts in the summer of 1983, and then embarked on a four year stint at North Texas State University. As a member of the One O'clock Jazz Band, he recorded five albums and toured Australia, Europe and the US. From there he became a member of the famous Woody Herman Orchestra and toured internationally with them for two years.



John Nugent has performed with a plethora of well-known musicians and entertainers including Ella Fitzgerald, Tony Bennett, Rosemary Clooney, Buddy DeFranco, Clark Terry, Mel Lewis, Jim Hall, Bob Hope, the Temptations, the Four Tops and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

After producing more than forty international concert tours, Nugent's NY JAM, INC. became a co-owner of The Stockholm Jazz Festival in 2000 (that fest is now 25 years old). Two years later, Nugent founded the Rochester International Jazz Festival in Rochester, New York. Now in its

seventh year (June 13-21, 2008), the fest has grown from six to nine days, has added three free stages, and will feature more than 250 concerts and 750 musicians.

Mr. Nugent may have great taste in music, but the 44-year old promoter is blessed with business sense as well. Taking care of business leaves less time for music, but Mr. Nugent still finds time to play his sax.

www.rochesterjazz.com
www.paetecmusic.com
www.stockholmjazz.com

Photo by Lisa Hughes

“These days, I enjoy just as much satisfaction watching my events become a reality as I do playing the horn on a creative level with the artists and bands I’m fortunate enough to perform with.”

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