

New York City native **Gregory Ryan** has established himself as an in-demand sideman on both acoustic and electric bass. His big supportive sound, swinging style, and complete understanding of harmony and his role on the bandstand combine to create his ability to make even the most complex modern composition swing in the tradition of the great bass players. At home in a variety of musical worlds -- accomplished in Brazilian, Cuban, funk, and mainstream jazz styles -- he performs in festivals and concerts worldwide. Mr. Ryan has appeared with pianists James Williams, Mulgrew Miller, and Benny Green; guitarists Jim Hall and Pat Martino; vocalists Karrin Allyson, Peter Cincotti, and Dena DeRose; and numerous jazz luminaries including Regina Carter, Wycliffe Gordon, Billy Harper, Tom Harrell, and Joe Locke, among others. Mr. Ryan's growing Latin Jazz credits include performances with the Lincoln Center Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra, the Chico O'Farrill Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra, Arturo O'Farrill, Papo Vazquez' Pirates Troubadours, and Bobby Sanabria's Quarteto Aché.

Gregory Ryan co-leads *Grupo Yanqui* with Bennett Paster. Calling the band "one of New York's best kept secrets," Jazz Review (UK) critic Fred Grand cited their 2008 release, *Grupo Yanqui Rides Again*, among the top ten CDs of 2008. In *Jazziz*, Ed Kopp wrote "once again, Paster and Ryan have seamlessly melded jazz chops with accessible Latin forms," and that "Ryan more than meets the challenges confronting a Latin-jazz bassist, building a solid foundation on every track." In his 4.5-star review, Michael G. Nastos of *All Music Guide* concluded, "No matter the criteria, this wonderful music would be difficult to nitpick, for it is not copped, derivative, or clichéd on any but the minutest levels. Given that many artists in recent times have mixed the Latin and jazz genres, Grupo Yanqui are not only riding high, but also streaking ahead of similar groups." Their 2001 self-titled debut CD skillfully balanced original compositions by Ryan and Paster with Cuban and latin-tinged standards, drawing from Afro-Cuban, Brazilian and American traditions and influences. *All Music Guide* praised the disc's "involved arrangements, passionate solos, and vigorous, spontaneous interplay, all with a melodic and cosmopolitan Latin funk touch." Grupo Yanqui has made concert and clinic appearances from New York to California since its inception in 1998. A quartet edition of Grupo Yanqui toured as part of the U.S. State Department and Jazz at Lincoln Center's *The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad* program in 2006, performing and conducting workshops in Sweden, Russia, Estonia and Serbia-Montenegro.

*Invisible Horizon*, Mr. Ryan's 2006 recording as a leader, is the second collaborative project with pianist Bennett Paster and drummer Keith Hall. "There's no wasted motion, with an effortless, clean, smooth dynamic throughout," *All Music Guide* says of the album. The record features original compositions by all three musicians as well as a few choice standards. Tenor saxophonist Chris Cheek joins the trio on three tracks. This trio enjoyed critical acclaim of their debut CD, *Skyline*, described by *Allaboutjazz.com* as "a beautifully melodic effort, start to finish," praising the trio's "relaxed, optimistic, vivacious" sound; *Modern Drummer* states that the trio "radiate[s] warmth, vitality, robust melodicism, and an effortless swing."

Gregory Ryan uses AMT acoustic bass microphones.