



Musical ambassador and interpreter of America's music, Wycliffe Gordon experiences an extraordinary career touring the world performing hard-swinging, straight-ahead jazz receiving great acclaim from audiences and critics alike. His unmatched modern mastery of the plunger mute and his prodigious technique and signature sound, has solidified Gordon a place in musical history known as one of the top trombonists of his generation.

In addition to a successful solo career, Gordon tours regularly leading the Wycliffe Gordon Quartet, headlining at legendary jazz venues and performing arts centers throughout the world. Gordon is a former veteran member of the Wynton Marsalis Septet, Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and has been a featured guest artist on Billy Taylor's "Jazz at the Kennedy Center" Series. Gordon's extensive performance experience includes work with many of the most renowned jazz performers of the past and present.

Gordon's recordings are a model of consistency and inspiration, and his musical prowess has been captured on numerous recordings, including thirteen solo CDs and seven co-leader CDs. His latest effort "Cone and T-Staff," released in February 2010, is a quintet recording featuring trumpeter Terell Stafford. Gordon is featured on numerous recordings with the Wynton Marsalis Septet, Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, and many others as evidenced in his extensive discography.

Wycliffe Gordon is also a gifted composer and arranger. He is commissioned frequently by renowned jazz groups and organizations and has an extensive songbook of original compositions that span the various timbres of jazz music. His commissioned works include a vibrant new score for the 1925 classic silent film "Body and Soul" which was premiered at the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra's 2000-01 season opening night performance at Avery Fisher Hall, and was released on DVD in 2008. Gordon's "I Saw the Light," a musical tribute to Muhammad Ali, was commissioned and premiered by the Brass Band of Battle Creek in March 2004, and is scheduled for release on DVD in 2011. He is currently working on an extensive commission for the Jazz Arts Group Columbus, Beyond the Blackberry Patch that will premiere during the Columbus bicentennial celebration 2012. This 90-minute piece of music for ten musicians will tell the story of the King-Lincoln District and incorporates the Eight Columbus City Schools in the district and their study of their own neighborhood, its past, present, and future. In May 2011, the Apollo Theater will premiere a commissioned work by Wycliffe that will celebrate 75 years of great music. Other noted commissions include "Welcome to Georgia Town," an auto-biography of sorts commissioned by the Savannah Music Festival, and "Cyberswing – Jazz in the Digital Age" that was premiered at Flushing Town Hall in 2009.

Gordon's compositions have been performed by the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, the Wynton Marsalis Septet, the Wycliffe Gordon Quartet, the Brass Band of Battle Creek and numerous other ensembles, and performed in programs throughout the U.S. and abroad including concert halls in New York, Los Angeles, Aspen, Georgia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Germany, London, Finland and Switzerland. Two of Gordon's arrangements are also featured as a part of the PBS series "Marsalis on Music." Recent concert seasons have included premieres of compositions by Gordon for a variety of ensembles both in the United States and internationally.

Gordon's television appearances have included the Grammy Awards, the PBS special documentary "Swingin' with the Duke," and two Live from Lincoln Center broadcasts with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra – "Uptown Blues, Ellington at 100" (a collaboration with the New York Philharmonic) and "Big Train." Gordon also appeared in Ken Burns's documentary "Jazz."

Other television appearances include "A Carnegie Hall Christmas Concert" and "Live from Lincoln Center: The Juilliard School at 100 Years." Gordon is featured in BET's 13-part series "Journey with Jazz at Lincoln Center" and was guest artist and commentator in NPR affiliate WVIA's special program on Tommy Dorsey. Gordon also appeared with the Wynton Marsalis Septet in the feature film "Tune In Tomorrow" starring Peter Falk, Keanu Reeves and Barbara Hershey.

Gordon is rapidly becoming one of America's most persuasive and committed music educators, and currently serves on the faculty of the Jazz Arts Program at Manhattan School of Music. His work with young musicians and audiences from elementary schools to universities all over the world is extensive, and includes master classes, clinics, workshops, children's concerts and lectures — powerful evidence of his unique ability to relate musically to people of all ages. Gordon is currently working on a collection of trombone quartets, trios and duos to be entitled "Trombone Majesty," with expected publication in 2011. In addition, his first method book "Basic Training, Exercises and Suggested Studies by Wycliffe Gordon," a compilation of the materials, exercises and approaches he uses in his teaching and in his own practice regimen, will be released in 2012. Gordon received the Jazz Journalists Association 2008, 2007, 2006, 2002 and 2001 Award for Trombonist of the Year, and the Jazz Journalists Association 2000 Critics' Choice Award for Best Trombone.

Born in Waynesboro, Georgia, Gordon was first introduced to music by his late father, Lucius Gordon, a classical pianist and teacher. His interest in the trombone was sparked at age twelve by his elder brother who played the instrument in his junior high school band. Egged on by sibling rivalry, Gordon's relentless pleading of his parents led to his first trombone. A year later, an aunt bequeathed the Gordon Family her jazz record collection, and so began his passion for jazz music.

Wycliffe Gordon is a Yamaha artist and endorses Greg Black mouthpieces. For additional information visit [www.wycliffegordon.com](http://www.wycliffegordon.com) or contact Brumfield & Associates, [info@brumfieldassociates.com](mailto:info@brumfieldassociates.com).