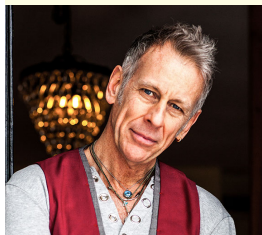


THE HOUSE OF CARDINALS

THE TOUR BAND



MIKE POPE, an extraordinary acoustic and electric bassist, has logged thousands of miles touring many continents with the likes of Chick Corea, David Sanborn, and Bill Bruford. He was raised in Ohio by parents who were classical musicians and educators with deep listening skills. At the University of North Texas Pope encountered legendary saxophonist Michael Brecker who suggested he move to New York City. The young bassist was soon playing with Brecker, Blood Sweat and Tears, The Gil Evans Orchestra, Manhattan Transfer and countless other jazz stars. His life events; the ups, downs and in-betweens, inform his latest album *Cold Truth, Warm Heart*, to which he contributes as a musician, composer and engineer.



JOE LOCKE is a major voice on vibraphone. Capable of stunning physical power and broad emotional range, he has performed and recorded with diverse artists such as Grover Washington Jr., Kenny Barron, Eddie Henderson, Cecil Taylor, Dianne Reeves, Ron Carter, The Beastie Boys, the Münster Symphony Orchestra and the Lincoln, Nebraska Symphony. "Not only has he mastered an instrument that has catapulted only a handful of players to the forefront of modern jazz - but he has done so in a way that transcends mere technique and establishes him as a unique and adventurous musical voice," says Derk Richardson of the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*. In the last decade he has also emerged as a composer and bandleader.



ELDAR DJANGIROV - *The New York Times* described New York based pianist and Grammy-nominated artist as a "blend of musical intelligence, organizational savvy, enthusiasm and prowess that was all the more impressive for seeming so casual." Djangirov began playing piano as a toddler in the Soviet Republic of Kyrgyzstan before moving to Kansas City and then San Diego with his family. At age 12, he was the youngest artist ever to appear on Marian McPartland's "Piano Jazz" and the trajectory of his career continued upward. He is known for his prodigious technique and musicality. *Downbeat's* Bob Doershuk says, "His command of the instrument is beyond staggering. Dave Brubeck called him "a genius."



MAURICIO ZOTTARELLI is a critically acclaimed and award-winning drummer. Described as "Superb!" by *Jazz Times*, he has more than 70 albums to his credit. He worked with some of the most important artists of today: Hiromi, Dig Trio, Eliane Elias, Marc Johnson, Prasanna, Esperanza Spalding, Keiko Matsui, Richard Bona, Paquito D'Rivera, Lee Ritenour, Joe Lovano, Chico Pinheiro, Cláudio Roditi, Geoffrey Keezer, Mike Pope, Ivan Lins, Carmen Souza, Chuck Loeb, Rosa Passos, Dom Salvador, Jovino Santos Neto, Nilson Matta, Toninho Horta, Filó Machado, Cidinho Teixeira group, Gustavo Assis Brasil, Marc Rossi Group, Hendrik Meurkens, Oriente Lopez and many others.



SEAMUS BLAKE is a New York based tenor saxophonist/composer and is recognized as one of the next exponents of contemporary jazz. His music is known for its sophistication, bold improvisation and sheer swagger. John Scofield, who hired Seamus for his *Quiet* band, called him "extraordinary, a total saxophonist." Blake's recent releases, *Live at Smalls* (2010), *Bellwether* (2009) and *Live in Italy* (2009), have garnered considerable critical praise for his masterful playing, ne compositional skills and his facility as a leader. *Live in Italy* made many top of the year lists and was awarded 4.5 stars in *Downbeat*.