

## **RAFI MALKIEL**

Composer / Trombone / Euphonium / Bandleader / Educator

*Best Latin Jazz Trombonist of 2007 – Latin Jazz Corner*

*One of the young guns of jazz trumpeting the best of a new generation. -- Chip Deffaa, NY Post*

If one has any doubts music is an international language that transcends both borders and nationalities, one need only listen to the compositions, arrangements and instrumental virtuosity of Israeli trombonist and euphonium player RAFI MALKIEL. Born in Jerusalem in 1972, Malkiel currently resides in New York where he has established himself as a mainstay on that city's jazz and Latin music.

The recipient in 2008 of a grant from Chamber Music America's New Works: Creation and Presentation Program, Malkiel draws upon a wide variety of global music styles and influences in both live performances and in the studio. These include written and improvised works from the American jazz tradition, Afro-Caribbean rhythms, melodies and compositions as well as techniques from the Western classical music canon.

Malkiel's critically acclaimed debut album "My Island" (Raftone Records/2007) features original compositions and his arrangements of popular Latin and jazz classics. The CD was named Latin Jazz Album of 2007 by *All About Jazz-NY*, cited by *The Village Voice* as a notable release of 2007 and a nominee for Best Latin Jazz CD of 2007 by the Jazz Journalists Association. The CD was played on radio stations around the US and Canada, on several *Latin Beat* Top-20 Hit Parades one of KUVO in Denver's a Top-30 Latin Jazz CD of 2007. Malkiel is working on his next album that John Zorn's label Tzadik Records commissioned.

Established in 2003, The Rafi Malkiel Ensemble, is comprised of some of the most exciting musicians in New York and regularly performs at clubs and festivals in the U.S. In addition, Malkiel performs with Willie Colon, Jason Lindner's Big Band and the Grammy-nominated Colombian singer Toto La Momposina, among others. His other credits include having been a member of the band Salsa Picante for a decade, participating in Reggie Workman's John Coltrane Africa Brass Live project and performing with Bobby Short at The Café Carlyle.

Malkiel has played Madison Square Garden, Radio City, Town Hall, Symphony Space and other notable New York venues and also performed at numerous festivals around the world including the JVC Jazz Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Central Park Summer Stage, WOMAD festivals in Greece, New Zealand, and Australia, the Sydney Festival in Australia, and the Red Sea International Jazz Festival in Israel. He has appeared on over 50 jazz, Latin and rock albums as well as on film soundtracks with Ray Anderson, Salsa Picante, La Momposina and Lauryn Hill, among others. Voted Best Latin Jazz trombonist by Jazz Corner.com, Malkiel was cited in the Recommended Jazz Trombonists list in Ken Burns' documentary *Jazz*, and has received multiple awards from the American Israel Cultural Foundation.

Malkiel earned a Master of Music degree at the Manhattan School of Music, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from The New School for Social Research/ Mannes Schools of Music. He teaches trombone and chamber music at the Bloomingdale School of Music and at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y and is an active clinician conducting master classes around the world and workshops at several WOMAD festivals in the UK, Australia and New Zealand.