

Hal Miller

For more than forty years, Hal Miller has been involved with jazz music as an instrumentalist, teacher, writer, lecturer, and historian. His personal jazz video collection is well known to high schools, colleges, and television studios throughout the nation, and he has used this extensive video library to—in his own words—“spread the jazz gospel” as much as he can.

Hal is a product of the State University of New York, having gained his undergraduate degree at SUNY Potsdam and his master’s at SUNY Albany. Capital District Area people are familiar with his work as a result of his many playing appearances with his own band in various area venues as well as his annual visits to the Saratoga Performing Arts Center with the Santana Band.

When he is not on the road touring with Santana, Hal devotes much of his time to jazz education. He has been on the faculty of the Skidmore Summer Jazz Institute for the past eight years and he is a regular visitor to other schools such as the University of North Texas in Dallas, Louisville University in

Louisville, Ky., Bard College, and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and Hampshire.

As the music director for Jazz Video Networks (JVN), Hal Miller is now working on a project which hopes to bring jazz video content as well as history to schools around the country via webcasting.

I am pleased to recommend him as a temporary addition to our staff and I look forward to his contribution to our institution.

Attch: abbreviated Hal Miller Bio
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(Abbreviated Bio 2007)

Hal Miller, a music historian, jazz drummer, Latin percussionist, writer, and lifelong jazz fan, continues to spread the jazz gospel through his sharing of his prodigious collection of jazz concert and program videos. With a collection now encompassing some 14,000+ items, Hal possesses one of the largest private jazz video collections in the

world. Given his experience with and understanding of jazz and jazz history, he is ideally qualified to trace the history of this art form through his film and video collection something he has largely devoted himself to for the past seventeen years.

The Miller jazz video archives have often been used as a resource for television programs and school curricula both in the U.S. and Europe. Considerable use of Hal's collection is represented in the Museum of Jazz History in Kansas City, and much of the live concert footage presented in the Ken Burns series *Jazz* was provided by Hal as well.

As a writer, Hal Miller's contributions have been both prolific and significant. His liner notes have accompanied numerous jazz cd albums some of which have been as follows:

John Coltrane- *Live Trane* (for Carlos Santana)

Miles Davis- *Montreux Highlights*

Weather Report: *Tale Spinnin'*

Mysterious Traveller

Black Market

Best of Weather Report

(Box set 2006) *Forecast Tomorrow*

John LaBarbera Big Band: *On The Wild Side*

Miles Davis: *Bitches Brew Reissue* (written w/Carlos Santana)

Francesca Tanksley (pianist): *Journey*
Lee Shaw (pianist): *Originals*

In addition to his work in jazz, Hal has contributed poems and liner notes to a number of Santana recordings, some of which are as follows:

Santana: *Moonflower (reissue)*

Love, Devotion, Surrender

Welcome

Caravanserai

Dance of the Rainbow Serpent

Santana I: Legacy Edition (release date

11/04)

Always in demand as a visiting clinician and jazz historian, Hal continues to be an annual presenter at the North Texas State Jazz Festival in Addison, Texas, as well as a frequent guest lecturer/jazz historian at the University of Louisville's *Jazzweek*. For the past eight years has been jazz historian for the Skidmore Summer Jazz Institute in Saratoga, N.Y. He has been a visiting historian for the Chicago Public School System, University of Massachusetts at Amherst (Hampshire College), Bard College in New York, and at the State University of New York at Albany.

In addition, Hal recently concluded a nine-year monthly jazz video/history series for the Borders Books store in Albany, N.Y that was free to the public.

Included among his present projects are his continuing autobiographical collaboration with Carlos Santana, and the establishment of a jazz video archive for famed keyboardist/composer Joe Zawinul's Vienna jazz club *Birdland*.

Hal continues to pursue his first love jazz drums. Over the years he has performed and/or toured with James Spaulding, Nick Brignola, J.R. Monterose, Pat LaBarbera, Lee Konitz, Charles MacPherson, Eddie Gomez, George Coleman, Jack Wilkins, Jimmy Heath, Howard Johnson and Erica Lindsay, to name but a few.

N.B. See www.jazzvideonetworks for additional information on Hal Miller