

John Raymond

Trumpeter | Composer | Educator

John Raymond is making a name for himself as one of the most promising, genre-bending musicians in jazz today. With a singular voice as a trumpeter, flugelhornist and composer, Raymond is "*steering jazz in the right direction*" (Downbeat Magazine) by pushing its boundaries, seamlessly incorporating indie-rock, folk and electronic influences into his music. "*This is jazz, yes, but jazz with an open mind.*" (Something Else).

Raymond's primary band **Real Feels** is a bass-less trio which includes guitarist Gilad Hekselman and drummer Colin Stranahan as well as himself on flugelhorn. For the Minnesota native, the idea of developing a band was nothing new. In fact, Raymond's most formative years were spent learning from and being a part of numerous local jazz and indie-rock bands, each dedicated to serving the song rather than improvising for improvising sake. Bringing these Midwestern sensibilities to the formation of Real Feels, the band developed a unique identity from the moment they first played together.

The group's debut album "*Real Feels*" was released in 2016 on Shifting Paradigm Records and received high praise from the New York Times, Downbeat and JazzTimes among others. It was also lauded by Stereogum as one of the best jazz albums of the year. Embarking on a 40+ city tour of the United States (which Raymond booked himself), the group proceeded to release "*Real Feels Live Vol. 1*" later that year, a live recording documenting the band's growth on the road. Their 2018 release "*Joy Ride*", the band's first on Sunnyside Records, led to another extensive tour and has yielded their newest album and most poignant statement yet - "*Real Feels Live Vol. 2*" (released January 2019). Warm, lyrical melodies are complemented by an infusion of electronics and effects, giving the group a sound that is entirely accessible and relevant. Add to this the deep chemistry between the musicians, and it's no surprise that Real Feels is one of the hottest new groups in jazz today.

John has performed with some of the most well-respected names in jazz including Billy Hart, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Linda Oh as well as Orrin Evans and the Captain Black Big Band, of which he performed, composed and arranged on the group's 2019 Grammy-nominated album "*Presence*." John has also recorded or performed with artists such as S. Carey (of Bon Iver), Sara Barielles, and Cory Wong (of Vulfpeck).

In addition, John has also established himself as a sought-after educator, as he is currently Professor of Jazz Trumpet at Indiana University as well as an active guest clinician & soloist at schools around the world. His article "Discovering A Voice That's All Your Own" was recently published in Downbeat Magazine, and his two-part article "Developing the Entrepreneurial Mind: Teaching Students How To Bloom Where They're Planted" was recently published in JAZZed magazine.

For more information, please visit www.johnraymondmusic.net.