



# The John Kalleen Group

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## “The John Kalleen Group: Modern Jazz with a Vision”



The John Kalleen Group is a hot version of “Summertime,” a cool version of “Footsteps” and the new territory of beautifully crafted originals. Listen to the swinging spark of “Arête” and the taut, bluesy adventure of “Discrete Measured Moments.”

The JKG is a quintet in the classic style: trumpet, sax, piano, bass and drums. They offer fresh compositions, echoing the admired hard bop and post-bop eras of the 50s and 60s, but infused with a modern, dynamic spark. And of course, they deliver swinging, spirited arrangements of the classics from those eras. An evening with the John Kalleen Group is a night of excellent musicianship, up-tempo energy and killer jazz with an inventive drive.

*“John, we consider the JKG a huge asset when it comes to our jazz entertainment. I hear nothing but amazing things about your group’s performances here. Thanks for all the greatness that you have brought to Shanghai 1930!”*

*Kaitlin Maley, Jazz Coordinator, Shanghai 1930, San Francisco*

In an age of pickup bands, where “group performance” often means an assemblage of soloists trading licks, the John Kalleen Group is instead a true ensemble, a quintet of musicians who rehearse and arrange together to create the kind of flowing, harmonious interplay, joyous power and full-bodied sound that comes only from a mutual, enduring dedication.

Put more simply, the JKG is a tight, creative band that swings like mad and is a blast to listen to!

*“The John Kalleen Group expresses a musical energy, creativity and sophistication reminiscent of the great jazz groups of the 50s and 60s. Our customers love their performances!”*

*Dagmar Curtis, Manager, Cliff House, San Francisco*

Trumpeter John Kalleen founded the John Kalleen Group in 2004. Kalleen’s track record as a band leader had already been firmly established during his three years at the helm of the popular Bay Area mainstream jazz group, Tout va Bien.

When Kalleen decided to create a band more fully dedicated to the challenging sounds of 50s and 60s post-bop, he realized that the updated sound would require an updated group identity, as well, and the John Kalleen Group was born.

As John Kalleen set about to assemble the JKG, he did it with a patient, dedicated attentiveness, auditioning potential group members until he found players whose style fit the ensemble sound he’d envisioned, whose musical philosophy complemented his own and who would be able to offer inspired input of their own. All who’ve heard the JKG will agree that Kalleen succeeded splendidly.

The band is led, of course, by Kalleen, a versatile and talented musician who began his professional jazz life at age sixteen. John’s band mates are all young jazz veterans, including tenor saxophonist/ composer Michael Bello, pianist James Mitchell, bassist Piro Patton, and drummer Michael Pinkham.

The JKG has developed a strong and growing audience, performing at an impressive variety of Bay Area venues, including the Cliff House, Shanghai 1930 and Octavia Lounge in San Francisco, Latitude and Zebulon’s Jazz Lounge in the North Bay, MacArthur Place in Sonoma and the Belvedere Wine & Jazz Series in Healdsburg. Enthusiastic audiences and impressed venue management have been the rule wherever they’ve performed.

Great jazz. The John Kalleen Group makes it happen!



The John Kalleen Group is available to play at clubs, festivals and corporate events.

For more information, please contact John Kalleen at 707.778.7082  
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