a master’s of music degree in jazz studies from the University of Oregon, and was awarded the “Outstanding Graduate Student in Jazz Studies” award. He has worked for MakeMusic! Inc., makers of Finale notation software. He received his undergraduate degree in theory/composition from St. Olaf College, where he studied jazz with Dave Hagedorn and composition with Tim Mahr, Peter Hamlin, and Charles Forsberg.

Andrea Niemiec is an acoustic and electric bassist and a 2003 graduate of the University of Oregon. She has played with Randy Porter, Alan Jones, Dan Balmer, William Thomas, Darrell Grant, John Gross, George Mitchell, Tom Grant, John Stowell, Lee Wuthenow, Steve Christofferson, Peter Epstein, Gary Hobbs, Ron Steen, Bill Beach, Mary Kadderly, and others. In 2003, she received the “Outstanding Performer in Jazz Studies” from the University of Oregon, and in 2001 she was voted “Outstanding College Rhythm Section Member” by the Reno Jazz Festival. Andrea’s arrangements have been performed at the International Association of Jazz Educators (IAJE), for the National Association of Music Educators (MENC) Northwest Regional Conference, at the Reno Jazz Festival, and by the University of Oregon and University of Kansas jazz ensembles.

Jason Palmer currently teaches at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon and performs and teaches throughout the Northwest. He attended the University of Oregon where he received both a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in music. As a student, Palmer had the opportunity to perform in a variety of ensembles as well as with guest artists like Nancy King, Bobby Shew, Gary Versace, John Hollenbeck, and Toby Koenigsberg. Since 1995, Palmer has performed and recorded with such jazz artists as Dave Frishberg, Bucky Pizzarelli, John Zorn, Ruth Brown, Dick Hyman, Ken Pekowski, Randy Porter, Don Latarski, Tom Bergeron, Mike Denny, and Dan Tepfer. His pop and rock experience includes work with The Cherry Poppin’ Daddies, Mason Williams, the Justin King Band, Mark Alan, and Satin Love Orchestra. He has appeared at the Knitting Factory in New York, the Rochester Jazz Festival, the High Sierra Music Festival, Jazz Festival Calgary, and the Oregon Festival of American Music. His recordings have been reviewed in Cadence, All About Jazz, and the All Music Guide.
ABOUT TONIGHT’S ARTISTS

The members of Seven Minus met and began playing together in various ensembles and configurations during the fall of 2003 at the University of Oregon. After realizing that they all held a common interest in playing newly composed works for a small improvising ensemble, they formed Seven Minus. The group focuses on material written or arranged by its members and including a variety of genres, from swinging jazz, to world influences and chamber jazz. Since its inception, Seven Minus has developed an organic cohesiveness and group sound that stems from their shared drive to present original material and works from writers at the forefront of the creative music scene.

John Adler is currently assistant professor of trumpet/jazz studies at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. He has played lead trumpet in the Jaco Pastorius Big Band, the Denis Nodet Big Band, the Reno Jazz Orchestra, and the Grammy Award Winning University of Miami Concert Jazz Band. In an addition, he is a founding member of the jazz chamber group Seven Minus. Adler has shared the stage with numerous jazz greats including John Hollenbeck, Maria Schneider, Bobby Shew, Terence Blanchard, and Conrad Herwig. A native of Reno Nevada, Adler is a graduate of the University of Nevada-Reno, the University of Oregon, and is finishing his D.M.A. at the University of Miami where he studied with Alex Norris and former principal trumpet of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Craig Morris. Adler was invited to Paris to compete in the 2006 Maurice Andre Trumpet Competition, winning DownBeat magazine’s “Best Classical Instrumentalist” in 2003, and has been a featured soloist with the chamber orchestra of Southwest Virginia, the Miami Youth Symphony, and numerous university ensembles across the country. His orchestral experience includes performances with the Roanoke Symphony, the Eugene Symphony, the Miami Symphony, and the Reno Philharmonic.

Joe Manis received a bachelor of music in jazz studies from the University of Oregon in 2005 and is currently a master’s student at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY in 2005 as a master’s student. Manis is currently a master’s student at New England Conservatory in Boston, MA. He has played with Thomas Mapfumo and the Blacks Unlimited on Real World Records. Manis currently shouts background vocals and plays alto saxophone with the Cherry Poppin’ Daddies. He appears on the Cherry Poppin’ Daddies’ forthcoming album playing baritone saxophone. Manis has also played with the Ken Schaphorst Big Band featuring trombonist Andre Hayward, The Temptations, and the many incarnations of the Joe Manis Trio.

After completing a degree in Jazz Studies from the University of Oregon in 2004, trombonist and composer Joe Freuen relocated to New York City where he attended Manhattan School of Music and Teachers College at Columbia University, receiving a master’s of jazz studies and master’s of education. While at conservatory, Freuen had the privilege of studying privately with Michael Abene, Dave Taylor, Dave Liebman and Garry Dial. While at Teachers College, Freuen was fortunate to collaborate with Maxine Greene on the creation of arts curricula. He has received numerous awards both for his trombone playing and compositions, including DownBeat magazine’s student awards for both 2005 and 2006, an ASCAP young jazz composer finalist in 2005, Jazz at Lincoln Center’s First Music Commission Project honorable mention in 2005, and University of Oregon “Outstanding Performer of Jazz Studies” award in 2004. Throughout his career Freuen has shared the stage with Dave Liebman, Dick Oatts, Gary Smulyan, Bill Cunliffe, Maria Schneider, Wycliff Gordon, John Hollenbeck, Conrad Herwig, Bob Mintzer, Phil Markowitz, and African legend Thomas Mapfumo. In 2005-06 Freuen recorded an album with Dave Liebman and presented it at the IAJE Conference in New York City. Currently Freuen remains an active member of the New York City music scene, both as a teacher and freelancing musician.

Dan Cavanagh has garnered numerous awards for his compositions, including a first music commission from the New York Youth Symphony Jazz Band Classic program, and finalist in the 2002 and 2005 ASCAP Young Jazz Composers competitions. He has also been awarded several ASCAP awards for numerous performances of his works. His music has been performed at Lincoln Center, the Reno International Jazz Festival, the 2006 International Jazz Composer’s Symposium, Bass Hall in Fort Worth, and many other jazz and concert venues. He has received commissions from across North America, including drummer Adonis Rose, Dave Camwell, Nova Jazz Orchestra, Westwinds Jazz Orchestra in Calgary, AB, Canada, and numerous high school and middle school groups. His compositions for large jazz ensemble are published by Walrus Music and UNC Jazz Press. Currently, Cavanagh is an assistant professor of music and the assistant director of jazz studies at the University of Texas Arlington. He is active as a pianist and composer in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, regularly performing with groups including the Fort Worth Jazz Orchestra, Dan Cavanagh Trio, Jaime Reyes Group, Tim Ishii Quartet, and Fort Worth Classic Jazz Band. He has performed with jazz greats Bobby Shew, Adonis Rose, Jeff Coffin, and John Riley. He founded and is the lead faculty for the East Metro Music Academy Summer Jazz Lab, a summer day camp in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is active as a clinician and adjudicator and has appeared as a guest artist with several groups. In 2004, Cavanagh received