

# Stich Wynston - Bio

Stich Wynston is a drummer, composer, bandleader and sideman born and based in Toronto, Canada and best known for his 35+ years as the dynamic drummer for the internationally lauded **Shuffle Demons**, whose global touring schedule has garnered them recognition on 6 continents.

Stich has performed with numerous jazz artists and ensembles including: Paul Bley, Julius Hemphill, Charles Gayle, Keith Tippett, Jon Ballantyne, Phil Dwyer, George McFetridge, Mike Murley, Lorne Lofsky, Ted Quinlan, Bob Mover, Brownman Ali, Jane Bunnnett, Holly Cole and Molly Johnson. He is also one of the co-founders and co-leaders of the legendary Shuffle Demons, a band with whom he has released nine CDs and toured with for over three decades performing at festivals, concert stages and clubs all over the world.

Stich has also worked with many prominent artists in more commercial settings including: Jane Siberry, Tom Cochrane, Alex Lifeson, Big Sugar, The Sidemen, Dr. Pop and the Noise, Kobo Town, Digging Roots, Da and Abolengo.

As a member of the Shuffle Demons, Stich has been the recipient of several **CASBY AWARDS** and **TORONTO MUSIC AWARDS** including: Best Jazz Recording, Best Toronto Jazz Group, Best Independent Artist and Best Independent Video. Stich has also appeared on two different recordings which received **JUNO AWARD** nominations (Shuffle Demons – **STREETNIKS** – 1987 and Paul Cram Large Band – **Beyond Benghazi** – 1988), on Digging Roots JUNO AWARD winning recording **WE ARE** – 2010, and was also a member of Big Sugar in 1995 when the Blues/Rock outfit was nominated for Best New Group at the JUNOS.

In 1996, along with his long time cohorts Mike Murley and Geoff Young, Stich formed his own group called **Modern Surfaces**. Going far beyond the boundaries of jazz, Modern Surfaces is a truly unique ensemble encompassing free-improvisation, 20<sup>th</sup>-century classical music, electronic textures, and more. In 1998, Modern Surfaces recorded their first CD along with special guest, jazz piano icon, Paul Bley (Buzz Records – Netherlands).

In 2004, Stich released his second CD with Modern Surfaces called **Transparent Horizons** (TCB Music – The Montreux Jazz Label). This world-wide release features Stich with band members Mike Murley – saxophones, Geoff Young – guitars, and Jim Vivian – acoustic bass.

For 2021, a new Modern Surfaces album is in the works with the current band lineup comprised of legendary NY trumpet player **Tim Hagans** – trumpet, **Andrew Rathbun** – tenor saxophone, **Geoff Young** – guitar, **Andrew Downing** – acoustic bass and **Stich Wynston** – drums.

Stich has always been a very open minded individual and his music encompasses a wide variety of influences including jazz and the entire creative music tradition, 20<sup>th</sup>-century classical music, blues, rock, funk, soul, pop, African, Indian, Latin American, and more. His forward thinking musical sensibilities have always pushed the envelope of contemporary music and creative improvisation.