



**Multi-award winning  
trumpeter/composer  
Brownman Ali leads an all-star  
quintet through standards  
and originals by one of the  
greatest jazz trumpet  
voices in history**



# FREDDIE HUBBARD TRIBUTE

**Brownman Ali - trumpet / electric trumpet**  
**Marcus Ali - alto sax, flute, effects**  
**Dave Restivo - keyboard**  
**Tyler Emond - G-string electric bass**  
**Colin Kingsmore - drums**



**@ Trane Studio [TraneStudio.com](http://TraneStudio.com)**  
**964 Bathurst St. | 416.913.8197 | 9:00pm**  
**Fri Sept 12 - The Acoustic Years**  
**Sat Sept 13 - The Electric Years**

Frederick Dewayne Hubbard was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, on April 7, 1938. After spending a year playing mellophone in the John Hope Junior High School band, he switched to trumpet. While at Arsenal Tech High School, Hubbard also began playing french horn.

Though offered a scholarship by Indiana Central College for his french horn playing, Hubbard elected to study trumpet for the next year at the Jordan Conservatory of Music, and took lessons with Max Woodbury of the Indianapolis Symphony. During this period he worked in the Indianapolis area with a band called The Contemporaries and with the Montgomery Brothers (Wes, Buddy, and Monk).

In 1958, Hubbard travelled to New York City, first playing with baritone saxophonist Jay Cameron and later with his own group, and was shortly after hired on by Philly Joe Jones. His early playing style clearly owed elements to Miles Davis (his first influence), Clifford Brown, and Kenny Dorham.

By 1960, Hubbard had recorded his first album as a leader for Blue Note, Open Sesame, recorded with Eric Dolphy, and worked in the groups of Philly Joe Jones, Sonny Rollins, Charlie Persip, Slide Hampton, and J.J. Johnson before touring Europe with Quincy Jones' orchestra. He appeared as a sideman on several important jazz recordings from this period, including Ornette Coleman's Free Jazz and Oliver Nelson's Blues and the Abstract Truth.

In 1961, Hubbard joined the front line of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers group (along with Wayne Shorter and Curtis Fuller), producing some of the groups most significant albums. Hubbard remained in the group until 1964. He appeared on Eric Dolphy's seminal recording Out to Lunch in that year.

He recorded Ascension with John Coltrane (1965), and Maiden Voyage with Herbie Hancock and, after a period with Max Roach (1965-66), he led his own quintet which at the time usually featured altoist James Spaulding.

The 1970s mark some highs and lows for Hubbard. A fruitful association with producer Creed Taylor for CTI yielded some excellent albums (Red Clay and Straight Life in 1970, and First Light in 1971), but shortly after, Hubbard signed with Columbia and recorded several albums clearly geared toward more commercial consumption (simultaneously alienating those in the jazz mainstream).

It was not until 1977 that he returned his attention to the type of playing that had been so successful during his CTI period, touring with Herbie Hancock's V.S.O.P. group and producing recordings with such labels as Pablo, Blue Note, and Atlantic. Unfortunately, many in the jazz public had written him off by this point, even though he clearly retained the brilliance that made him such a force earlier in his career. High points of this period include recordings one with Oscar Peterson and a pair with Woody Shaw.

By the late 1980s, Hubbard's lack of reliability in making scheduled appearances (as well as other undocumented personal problems) began to hurt his professional stature, and his technique began to show some cracks.

In late 1992, Hubbard's chops broke down completely after he damaged his upper lip. After two years of rebuilding and relearning how to play with this damage, he began recording again for the Music Masters label with mixed success. Still on the comeback trail to this day, it remains to be seen whether Hubbard can regain the glory that made him such a success in the 60s.

**b r o w n m a n . c o m**