

Jeff Albert

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“When I think about the musical experiences that are most satisfying” says **Jeff Albert**, one of New Orleans’ premier trombonists, “it’s that spark of creativity and intensity that comes from live improvisation. That feeling of flying without a safety net.” So it’s no surprise that Jeff’s latest Lakefront Digital release features a stellar group of improvisers using his compositions as a launching point.

Released in May of 2005 *“One”* features Ray Moore on saxes, Edwin Livingston on bass, and Dave Cappello on drums. For some of the musicians the first time they met was at the recording session. “There’s often something magical that happens the first time a group plays together. You don’t have the expectations or preconceived ideas that develop over time. I wanted to catch the originality and spark of the group’s first meeting. Sometimes with great musicians like Ray, Edwin, and Dave, that first musical meeting can be something that is not reproducible.” That approach is a risk, but one that paid off well for Albert as the group turned out one stunning performance after another.

“I just love to play” says Albert, explaining the wide range of musical settings he finds himself in. These settings include the avant garde jazztronica trio *Quantum Blender*, the eclectic and innovative *Naked Orchestra*, and *Michael Ray and the Cosmic Krewe*. He has also worked with *Tony Dagradi and Inside Out*, *Al Belletto’s Sextet* and *Big Band*, the *John Mahoney Big Band*, *Naked on the Floor* and the *Improvisational Arts Council*. Jeff is an active freelance performer who is likely to be seen playing with any number of interesting and creative groups, playing trombone, bass trombone, or tuba. Always at home in an acoustic improvisational setting, Jeff has branched out by putting together an electric trombone rig that he features with *Quantum Blender*, and other select groups.

His most recent CD, *One* is available on the Lakefront Digital label. He also recorded *Picadilly Carrot Soufflé* (2003) and *Albert-Ankrum Project* (2001) for LFD.