

Jeff "Tain"'

Watts

With a personal style that is energetic and captivating, Jeff "Tain" Watts exhibits a versatility that has found him playing with everybody from Branford Marsalis to Danilo Perez, Kenny Garrett to Geri Allen, and Ravi Coltrane to Michael Brecker.

Now, he steps out to lead his own group.

After a stint with the mannered yet swinging Wynton Marsalis band, Watts joined brother Branford's freer, more challenging quintet in 1989. The challenge continued when Watts opted to follow Marsalis to Hollywood as drummer of the house band on *The Tonight Show*. After the gig ended, Watts toured with Marsalis and began developing his own band sound.

As a composer, Watts' writing suggests the influence of great writers, yet with his own distinct voice. Versatile, humorous, and explosive - all are 'Tain'! Yet Watts' record doesn't seem to exist just to show versatility; it's a labor of love and a reunion among longtime friends.

In addition to being a celebrated performer, composer, and leader, Jeff has established himself as an esteemed educator. He has conducted workshops, clinics, master classes, and lectures on a variety of subjects including the technical aspect of the drums, the requirements for leading a band, and the elements of composition. In addition, Jeff has conducted workshops on the evolution and development of the drums in musical styles from American and World Music to Jazz, Rock, and Hip Hop.

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Quotes

"Watts proved that he is not only a fantastic, forward-thinking drummer, but also an adept bandleader and composer."

All Music Guide

"...mainstream with liberating twists... TAIN possess heat, nuance, maturity, and a bounty of ideas..."

Entertainment Weekly

"Watts pumps each track with gregarious glee and full-framed cross-references to all manner of music."

Downbeat

"...no doubt that Watts is among the most accomplished and respected drummers on the jazz scene today, he is also building up an impressive body of work as a leader and composer."

Jazziz