

CHRISTOPHER BURNETT

SHORT BIO 2016



Christopher Burnett (b. 1955) is a critically acclaimed alto saxophonist, educator, leader, and composer who began his professional career with military jazz bands directly upon graduating high school at 18 years old. Over the course of a forty plus year career, Mr. Burnett has performed professionally around the world, recorded noteworthy albums as a leader, taught at the college-level and co-founded a significant independent recording label, ARC.

Born in Olathe, Kansas, the middle son of Clifford LeRoy Burnett and Violet Lorraine Jackson Burnett, his family traveled frequently during his youth due to his father being a member of the active US Air Force. He was ultimately raised in his maternal hometown of Paola, Kansas where the family had moved once his father's military career concluded in 1963. His mother was a significant influence on his choosing music as a professional career. And, it was his eldest

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brother, Richie Pratt, who mentored and encouraged him in the business as a professional. Subsequently, Mr. Burnett began his professional tenure by completing a full 22-year career performing and touring with notable military bands prior to embarking upon his current activities within the music scene at large.

Mr. Burnett has released three albums as a leader. His latest, 'Firebird', is being released first as singles on the ARC label. Additional credits include performances, and a forthcoming recording with the Dino Massa Kansas City Quintet titled, "Echoes of Europe." He is an in-demand woodwind instructor and jazz clinician, serving as festival adjudicator and conductor for honors ensembles on many occasions. Mr. Burnett was the guest speaker for the 2016 Martin Luther King Day Celebration at Fort Leavenworth. The Edward Jones Center for Entrepreneurship at Drury University invited Mr. Burnett to be its first speaker in their 'Self-Employment in the Arts' series for 2016. He is an adjunct professor of music at Metropolitan Community Colleges, as well as the Director of Operations and Communications for the American Jazz Museum, both are located in Kansas City. He is the 1995 5-Star Award of Merit Winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs as a Composer.

Mr. Burnett lives in the northwest Kansas City metropolitan area city of Leavenworth, Kansas and maintains a significantly active recording, composing and concert performance schedule. He is married to the flautist, Terri Anderson Burnett, they have two adult children and four grandchildren.

* Photo by Jason Piggie, Kansas City.

There's more. Also see - BurnettMusic.com

