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Alexa Tarantino biography

Alexa Tarantino is a vibrant, young jazz saxophonist, woodwind doubler, composer, and educator. Alexa's "exquisite soloing that is fresh, inspired, and original" (Paul Rauch, *All About Jazz*) establishes her individual voice which shines through as a dynamic performer and educator.

Alexa performs and tours regularly as a leader and sidewoman in a wide variety of ensembles and genres. Ensembles she has worked with include Wynton Marsalis & The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Darcy James Argue's Secret Society, Cécile McLorin Salvant's OGRESSE, Arturo O'Farrill & The Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra, Sherrie Maricle & the DIVA Jazz Orchestra, LSAT (quintet co-led with baritone saxophonist Lauren Sevian), and the Alexa Tarantino Quartet (Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, Jazz Standard, Birdland Theater). Alexa is an artist on the Posi-Tone Records label. Her debut leader album is on Posi-Tone and titled **Winds Of Change**. The band is a quartet featuring Nick Finzer, Christian Sands, Joe Martin, and Rudy Royston.

Tarantino is currently on faculty for Jazz at Lincoln Center's Youth Programs and previously served as Jazz Saxophone Instructor at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. She holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music and is currently pursuing her Master's Degree at The Juilliard School. Tarantino continues to visit several colleges, high schools, and summer jazz programs across the globe as a guest clinician, including the Rockport Jazz Workshop (MA), of which she is Founder and Director.