



**Jason T. Laczkoski**

*[jason-laczkoski.net](http://jason-laczkoski.net)*

*Valley City State University, North Dakota*

***Performs exclusively on E. Rousseau Mouthpieces***

*E. Rousseau*

[www.eugene-rousseau.com](http://www.eugene-rousseau.com)



# BIOGRAPHY

Described by Eugene Rousseau as, "a talented saxophonist," Jason T. Laczkoski is an emerging young voice in saxophone. An active performer, Jason has presented numerous solo and chamber recitals. He has presented numerous tours throughout the United States and frequents North American Saxophone Alliance conferences and the International Navy Saxophone Symposium. He has performed with both collegiate and high school orchestras as a featured soloist.

Jason makes frequent appearances as a clinician. He has been invited to give master classes at a number of colleges and universities. He may often be seen lecturing on how to develop an ideal saxophone tone. In March 2011 he was the keynote speaker at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) district 8 jazz festival where he presented the lecture, "Squeak, Slap, Thud, Developing the Golden Saxophone Tone." This presentation was so successful that he was invited to be a clinician at the annual PMEA all-state conference in 2012.

Starting in the fall of 2014 Jason will be joining the faculty of Valley City State University in Valley City, North Dakota. He will be teaching saxophone and clarinet lessons in addition to directing the jazz ensemble and music history classes. Previous teaching posts include adjunct instructor of saxophone at Lycoming College and Visiting Instructor of Saxophone at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Beyond his collegiate commitments Jason maintains a highly successful private woodwind studio, where he teaches saxophone and clarinet.

Jason came to music rather late in his life and did not begin any musical studies until he was 15 years old. He quickly developed a passion for his art and went on to study saxophone with Dr. Joseph Murphy at Mansfield University. While completing a bachelor's degree in music, with a minor in education, Jason won both the annual Mansfield University concerto competition and the Pennsylvania MTNA young artist competition.

Upon completion of his undergraduate studies Jason went on to earn a master's degree in saxophone performance from the University of Iowa where he studied with world-renowned saxophonist Dr. Kenneth Tse. Jason was awarded the saxophone teaching assistantship during this time and also went on to win the Iowa MTNA young artist competition. Jason remained at the University of Iowa for his doctoral studies. Currently, Jason is ABD and expects completion of this degree in spring 2015. His dissertation topic focuses upon the use of intertextuality in selected saxophone repertoire. In addition to his saxophone studies at Iowa, Jason completed a secondary area in conducting, studying with Myron Welch and Richard Mark Heidel.

In January 2011 Jason was the winner of a national competition in which he won a grant to record his debut CD, *Come Down Heavy!* This recording was released in November 2011 on the Emeritus Recordings label and is available directly from the artist, iTunes, Amazon.com and CDBaby. The peer reviewed *Saxophone Journal* described his playing on this cd as having, "a supple technique, rich sound, and ample musicianship, exhibits an impressive command of his instrument...one wants to hear him again."

An advocate of new music, Jason is constantly seeking out composers who write both intellectual and beautiful music. London based composer Ian Stewart has recently completed a duet for Jason, featuring the saxophone with violin and an electronic piece focusing on the coal industry. Composers Sy Brandon and John Griffin have also recently completed works for Jason.

Beyond saxophone, Jason has studied Body Mapping and Alexander Technique with Kay S. Hooper. He frequently incorporates these concepts into his teaching and clinics.

Jason is an active member of PMEA, NAFME, NASA and CMS and is a Yamaha Performing Artist and performs exclusively on Yamaha saxophones. Jason is an E. Rousseau Mouthpiece Artist and performs exclusively on E. Rousseau mouthpieces. In addition, Jason is a performing partner with the Co-op Press Fund.

Jason's primary motivation for following a career in music is simple --- to find and share beauty. He is a firm believer that music must be studied and performed because it can truly change the world.

More information on Jason may be found at his website, [jason-laczkoski.net](http://jason-laczkoski.net).

## WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

"a talented saxophonist" Eugene Rousseau – professor, University of Minnesota

"through a supple technique, rich sound, and ample musicianship, exhibits an impressive command of his instrument...one wants to hear him again." The Saxophone Symposium, the Journal of the North American Saxophone Alliance

"playing is vibrant and energized, sensitive, and puts across real enthusiasm..." Evan Chambers – composer

"the next generation of excellent saxophone artist and teacher." Kenneth Tse – professor, University of Iowa

"a master of his instrument, with a rich, warm sound and beautifully detailed approach..." Judith Shatin – composer

"very beautiful playing." Gary Louie – professor, Peabody Conservatory of Music

"recorded a very musical and technically flawless performance of my composition.." Sy Brandon – composer

"one of this country's best up-and-coming saxophonists, with a refreshing approach to programming." Timothy Roberts – professor, Shenandoah Conservatory of Music

## RECORDINGS

Come Down Heavy! Emeritus Recordings 20112, featuring works by Evan Chambers, Sy Brandon, Judith Shatin, and Joseph Canteloube. Jason T. Laczkoski saxophones, Joshua Russell, piano, Anna Draper, violin.

D Martin Jenni, Tribute University of Iowa Center for New Music, performance of Tio's Foursome for saxophone quartet

Seven Settings, Works for Saxophone by University of Iowa Composers, University of Iowa, performance of John Griffin's Suite for Solo Saxophone