

ABOUT ME

"As the jazz circle of creative music gets smaller, we can look at young men like Billy Williams to keep reminding us the beauty in study, deep musical application and vision. You can throw in great sound, touch, swing, improvisation and knowledge as well, because it's there too."

-Jae Sinnett, Jazz Artist/Clinician, Sonor and Sabian Artist



Billy Williams, a native of Virginia Beach, Virginia, began playing drums at the age of ten at the Brotherly Love Church of God in Christ in Norfolk, VA under the leadership of his grandfather, Pastor Wilbert R. Miller. His mother, the church Minister of Music, watched him closely and nurtured his gift. The foundation of building a life that was Christ-centered shaped Billy's outlook on the power of music. The life-long lessons of music MINISTRY, humility and professionalism learned during this time would also prove to be very

vital to his career. Now, 35, and a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, Billy has had the opportunity to travel the world extensively as a performer and educator.

Billy has worked professionally with many master musicians including: Larry Willis, Cyrus Chestnut, Steve Davis, Warren Wolf, Justin Kauflin, Raul Midon, Delfeayo and Ellis Marsalis, Tim Warfield, Christian McBride, Benny Golson, Gary Bartz, Nat Reeves, and Jon Faddis amongst many others

His talents have afforded him the chance to perform in prestigious venues such as:

Carnegie Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and The Village Vanguard in New York City; New Morning in Paris, France; Bimhuis in Amsterdam, Netherlands; Singapore Jazz Festival in Singapore; Ronnie Scott's in London, England; Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland; Jazzhus Montmartre in Copenhagen, Denmark; Blue Note Milano in Milan, Italy; Blue Note Tokyo in Tokyo, Japan; Umbria Jazz in Perugia, Italy; Porgy and Bess in Vienna, Austria; Jazz at Lincoln Center in Doha, Qatar; and the Jakarta Jazz Festival in Jakarta, Indonesia amongst many others.

As an educator, Billy has been featured as an Jazz Studies Artist-In-Residence at Duke University (Durham, NC), Centrum Jazz Workshop (Port Townsend, WA), National Conservatory of Music (Asuncion, Paraguay), The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (Eau Claire, WI), JazzSTL (St. Louis, Missouri), and at the Governor's School for the Arts (Norfolk, VA).

Fun Fact: Billy's drum and cymbal sound was completely and thoroughly sampled for use for "Straight Ahead! Jazz Drums" and "Straight Ahead! Jazz Brushes and Mallets" sample libraries.

The library contains samples, loops, and grooves to allow users to add authentic jazz drum sounds to their electronic sound libraries.

To learn more about Billy, please visit his website at: WWW.BILLYWILLIAMSMUSIC.COM

DRUM RIDER

Drum Kit:

Professional Line Maple from Pearl, Yamaha, Sonor, Craviotto preferred

18x14 Bass Drum

14x14 Floor Tom with Legs

12x8 Rack Tom with mount on Bass Drum (Or additional Snare stand to hold it. Mount preferable)

5x14 Snare Drum (Steel, Maple, or Birch preferred)

ALL drums with Remo COATED Emperors or equivalent coated 2-ply drum head on BATTER, and Remo CLEAR Ambassadors or equivalent clear 1-ply head as RESONANT

Chain Drive-Hi Hat Stand

Single Chain Bass Drum Pedal

Snare Drum Stand

3 Convertible Boom Cymbal Stands

Motorcycle Style Drum Throne (w/ extra padding)

Drum Rug (w rubber base)