

BIO

Guitarist **SCOTT SAWYER** has been making music for years, playing venues of every description: music clubs, beer-soaked dives and prestigious venues around the world. Though Sawyer can swing cerebrally, solving prickly harmonic riddles like a mathematician, he's at his best as a blue collar improviser combining funk, earthy jazz and accessible blues that make the listener wanna holler. Scott's band **GO THERE** reflects his interest in various genres.

Today, **GO THERE** continues to push the envelope and advance their tradition of "edgy provocative groove"...compelling originals, unique reconstructions of classic songs and plenty of intense jamming. A melting pot of musical influences, GO THERE is all about groove, communication and taking chances.

From 1982-1996 Scott spent most of his time in the jazz & improvised music trenches. Since then, he has enjoyed a steady return to his rock & blues roots while continuing to explore the jazz tradition & beyond.

Scott has performed in the USA, Brasil, Canada, Europe, Asia, The Middle East & Central America. Experienced & adept in jazz, blues, r&b, rock and pop settings, he has shared the stage/studio with a diverse group of musicians including Charlie Byrd, David Murray, Jon Lucien, Ghezzi, Lois Deloatch, Willie Pickens, Jon Metzger, Oteil Burbridge, Gongzilla, Ed Thigpen, Buster Williams, Delbert McClinton, Mel Melton as well as many lesser-known artists. Scott has performed numerous times with jazz singer Nnenna Freelon at clubs, concerts and festivals worldwide including the 1992 Philip Morris Superband World Tour. He remains a favorite accompanist & sideman of many NC-based musicians.

Sawyer's most recent album "Go There " was released in April 2007. "Go There" was featured and charted on XM Radio's "Beyond Jazz". In addition to his own recordings, Scott has appeared as sideman on numerous commercially available recordings including Nnenna Freelon's 1997 Grammy-Nominated release "Shaking Free" (Concord Records) and pianist Bill Anschell's "a different note all together" (Accurate). Scott has also arranged & recorded music for film (including "Once Around" w/ actor Danny Aiello).

In 1994, "Blue Diner" - a contemporary ballet set to Sawyer's composition "Blue Diner" from his album "In The Stream" - premiered at City Center Studios (NYC). In addition, Scott performed it live "on-stage" with dancers including prima ballerina Marie-Christine Mouis (Paris Opera Ballet, Nureyev & Friends) at Ballet Group International's Inaugural Concert (Durham, NC). Sawyer has also interpreted visual art through his own compositions..."Dark Lady" and "Slow Down Freight Train" appear on his album "Go There" (Doll).

As time allows, Scott produces music recordings for singer/songwriter Ghezzi and others...many have been featured on College, Internet and regional FM radio.

Scott has been a featured artist/clinician/speaker at numerous venues including UNC-Chapel Hill (NC), University of Wisconsin (Whitewater), UNC-Greensboro (NC), University of South Florida (Tampa), The Institute of the Arts @ Duke University (Durham, NC), Magellan School (Raleigh, NC) and Chapel Hill High School (Chapel Hill, NC).

He continues to work on an individual basis with a limited number of music/guitar students.