

# “THE GOSPEL OF JAZZ” ACCORDING TO KIRK WHALUM

ACCEPTING MEDIA INTERVIEWS



## A Winter Musical Wonderland of Jazz with Boney James, Kirk Whalum, Gerald Albright and Sheléa

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November 21, 2014, Kirk Whalum’s “*Gospel According to Jazz*” is set to renew the souls of listeners in the great City of Long Beach and the surrounding areas with a multi signature delivery of one or more of his chapters. His brilliant melodic reverberation merges the syncopation of fluid melodies as it soothes, encourages and directs a transformation unto newness. Whalum’s love for a greater being is heartfelt and evident as shown in the phrasing he uses to lead you on a spiritual journey of renewal. Aiding the delivery of this spiritual renewal is Los Angeles native **Gerald Albright** who provides the bread that feeds and the lovely **Sheléa** who provides the water that cleanses.

A GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JAZZ

CHRISTMAS 2014

November 21, 2014

**KIRK WHALUM**

Grammy award-winning saxophonist, Kirk Whalum, continues the tradition with his 3rd Annual “A Gospel According to Jazz Christmas” Tour, bringing excellent holiday entertainment to all! As a special treat, this year’s tour will include music from his new CD & DVD to be released in November, “The Gospel According to Jazz”, Chapter IV. Featured on the tour will be his special guest artist from that recording, female vocalist, Sheléa. Also featured will be the “So Amazing”, Gerald Albright.

“Nothing could be more wonderful for me than spending time during the holiday season with you and some of my favorite musical friends on our 3rd Annual Gospel According to Jazz Christmas Celebration! My awesome band is here again, along with my special guests Kirk Whalum, Asha Stoddart, the awesome Gerald Albright, and a really special guest—Sheléa! I guarantee you’ve never heard a voice like hers! There’s no joy like that of sharing the “Greatest Love of All” through the greatest music of all... Jazz! — Kirk Whalum

**SHELÉA**

Sheléa - Long overdue yet right on time, Sheléa has been busy writing, and/or singing for/collaborating/ performing with, Stevie Wonder, Carly Simon, Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis, Brian McKnight, Take 6, Narada Michael Walden, Chanté Moore, and Arturo Sandoval, to name a few. Sheléa steps into the spotlight with the release of her chart-rising CD, “Love Fell On Me”, & single, “I’ll Never Let You Go.” Special guests on her CD include Stevie Wonder, Brian McKnight & Narada Michael Walden. Sheléa is the featured female vocalist with “BWB”, Kirk’s collaboration with Rick Braun & Norman Brown, singing the CD title track, “Human Nature.” Check out her quickly approaching half-million viewed Whitney Houston tribute on Youtube@ [http://youtu.be/ll\\_gzNjvnKti](http://youtu.be/ll_gzNjvnKti)

**GERALD ALBRIGHT**

“From longtime friendships to the celebration of music...I’m so proud to be part of the Gospel According to Jazz Christmas Tour this year. It shall prove to touch the hearts and souls of all who experience. — Gerald Albright

Whalum’s international career catapulted due to the encouragement of friend and mentor, legendary pianist **Bob James**. His much sought after style and passion has resulted in collaborations with **Al Jarreau**, **Quincy Jones**, and **Barbra Streisand**. Film scores like *Boyz n the Hood* and *Prince of Tides* include his lush and insightful contributions. Whalum’s passionate saxophone lights up the mega hit ‘*I Will Always Love You*’ sung by **Whitney Houston** from *The Bodyguard* soundtrack.

The 12-time GRAMMY nominated musician’s impressive resume includes three **Dove Award** nominations, an **NAACP Image Award** nod, and two **Stellar Awards** (Gospel music’s highest honor). His **GRAMMY** for Best Gospel Song award came in 2011 with ‘*It’s What I Do*,’ featuring **Lalah Hathaway**.

**Gerald Albright** is a ‘musician’s musician.’ His staggering career has crossed over into jazz, R&B, and contemporary music. During the 80s he left his mark on recordings with **Anita Baker, Olivia Newton-John, The Temptations, Whitney Houston, Quincy Jones,** and many more. Along the way, he has sold over a million albums in the U.S. alone and has appeared on nearly 200 albums by other artists.

**Albright’s** many **GRAMMY** nods include ‘*Kickin It Up*’ and ‘*Sax for Stax*’. His next project, *Slam Dunk* includes his original compositions and a cover of former tour mate, **Phil Collins**, ‘*True Colors*.’

**Sheléa** is constantly writing and singing. Her notable collaborations include **Stevie Wonder, Carly Simon, Jimmy Jam, Take 6,** and **Arturo Sandoval**. Her newest release, ‘*Love Fell On Me*’, features the much-talked-about single ‘*I’ll Never Let You Go*.’

**Boney James**, a four-time Grammy nominee, headlines the **2014 Winter Concert** presented by **Rainbow Promotions, LLC**, the producers of the popular **Long Beach Jazz Festival**.

### **BONEY JAMES**

**Boney James** is a leading proponent of the Slow Jazz movement, but his wide ranging talent can also bring a strong emotional surge, especially during his live concerts. The Boston Globe reported that “his music is muscular and gritty,” and that he all but dares the crowd not to have a good time. His connection with his audience is visceral and vibrant as he takes them on a musical journey.



Born in Lowell, Massachusetts, James took up the clarinet at age eight, switching to saxophone when he was ten. Growing up in New Rochelle, New York, he was influenced by **Stevie Wonder, Earth, Wind and Fire** and saxophonist **Grover Washington, Jr.** At 14, James moved with his family to Los Angeles, where he received a degree in history from UCLA, and then began playing music full time after graduation. For seven years he toured as a sideman for a number of artists, including **Morris Day, The Isley Brothers, Randy Crawford** and **Bobby Caldwell**. In 1992 he released his debut album as a leader, “*Trust*.”

In addition to his Grammy nominations, James is a Soul Train Award winner (Best Jazz Album), was honored with an NAACP Image Award nomination for Best Jazz Album, and has four RIAA Certified Gold Records. Nine of James’ albums have reached Number 1 on the Billboard Contemporary Jazz Chart and two have reached the top 10 on the R&B Albums Chart, a rare feat for an instrumental artist.



# IT'S A WINTER OF JAZZ

with

**Boney James, Kirk Whalum,  
Gerald Albright and Sheléa**



**WHAT:** 2014 Winter Concert Presented By  
Rainbow Promotions, LLC.  
Featuring: "Boney James"  
Also Performing: "Gospel According to  
Jazz," with Kirk Whalum, Gerald  
Albright and Sheléa

**WHEN:** 8 p.m. Friday, November 21, 2014

**WHERE:** The Terrace Theater, Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center

**TICKETS:** TicketMaster: [800-745-3000](tel:800-745-3000) / <http://bit.ly/WINTERCONCERT>  
Terrace Theater Box Office: [562-436-3661](tel:562-436-3661)  
Rainbow Promotions LLC: [562-424-0013](tel:562-424-0013)  
Ticket Prices: \$46.00 to \$101.00

## **About Rainbow Promotions, LLC**

**Rainbow Promotions** is the producer of the Long Beach Jazz Festival, various concerts at the Terrace Theatre, Long Beach Center for the Performing Arts and other events throughout the year. For 27 years, Rainbow Promotions has presented the Long Beach Jazz Festival, one of the city's major events. For more about Rainbow Promotions, LLC., go to [www.rainbowpromotions.com](http://www.rainbowpromotions.com)

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