

## **Bruns Collective with Kevin Baché**

### **~ ABOUT THE BAND ~**

(177 words) -

An 8-piece crossover jazz ensemble featuring L.A.'s top jazz musicians handpicked by drummer, bandleader, and producer Jason Lee Bruns. They showcase a virtuosic 3-piece horn section, a highly versatile rhythm section, and powerful lead vocals by singer/songwriter Kevin Baché [bah-shay]. Their music, while rooted in the jazz tradition, is influenced by a variety of genres and features unique arrangements by Bruns based on his folkloric drumming field-research from around the world. They perform at L.A.'s top jazz venues including Catalina, Vibrato, and Vitello's, and various City of L.A. events including "Jazz at LACMA" and "Meet Me at Reed". They toured Japan in April of 2017 and again by popular demand in July of 2019. Their most recent albums "Live at Catalina" and "Cherry Avenue" (produced by Bruns for the Panout Music Group™ label) were Top-10 charting, and aired on 300+ radio stations nationwide. "Cherry Avenue" enjoyed radio play on L.A.'s K-JAZZ 88.1FM for over a year. The group has garnered numerous positive press and media reviews.

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### **~ LINKS ~**

Band URL:

[BrunsCollective.com](http://BrunsCollective.com)

Band Videos:

- Live at Catalina Jazz Club - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ap5FYjs3AgE>
  - Making of Cherry Avenue - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8LGBLpMQfdE&feature=youtu.be>
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### **~ MUSICIANS ~**

Jason Lee Bruns - drums (Beck, Liane Carroll, Luis Price, GOT commercial).  
Kevin Baché - vocals (David Bowie, Steve Miller)  
Ron Blake - trumpet (Elton John, Poncho Sanchez, Green Day, Ziggy Marley)  
Alex Hahn - alto & soprano sax (Michael Bubl , Michael Brecker Sax Competition Winner)  
Fabio de Souza - trombone (Ziggy Marley, Jungle Fire, Lady Antebellum)  
Benjamin Thomas - guitar (Happy Maladies, Shandy & Eve, Nat lia Spandini)  
Mahesh Malasooriya - piano (Arturo Sanduval, Engelbert Humperdinck, Wayne Shorter)  
Luca Alemanno - bass (Maria Schneider, Dave Koz, Dee Dee Bridgewater)

### **~ SPECIAL GUESTS ~**

Katissse Buckingham - flute (prince, "Anchorman " Jazz Flute" scene, yellow jackets)  
Brandon Fields - Tenor Sax (George Benson, Tower of Power, Ray Charles, Rippingtons)

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## ~ QUOTES ~

"Bruns' drumming and tight arrangements provide the perfect setting for Baché's vocals" ~ Bebop Spoken Here

"Jason and Kevin, like stellar predecessors Louie Bellson and Mel Torme, are skilled musicians/arrangers." ~ Don Heckman

"Bruns & Baché have really put together a great project and offer a classy delivery of an enjoyable collection of tunes." ~ JazzTimes

"...the interaction between the two is excellent." ~ All About Jazz

"...very musical ideas that have enhanced what are already well-known pop culture hits." ~ All About Jazz

"...he [Baché] sings the way he's inspired to sing and he's not the least intimidated by [Bruns'] powerhouse group behind him" ~ L.A. Jazz Scene

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## ~ ALBUMS ~

"CHERRY AVENUE" - Bruns Collective with Kevin Baché (2015) - *Crossover Jazz* - L.P.

"LIVE AT CATALINA" - Bruns Collective with Kevin Baché (2012) - *Crossover Jazz* - L.P.

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## ~ RADIO CHARTS ~

"Live at Catalina Jazz Club" (Panout Music Group) - debut at #1 slot for Top Jazz Adds and Peaked at #8 on Top 40 for CMJ Charts amongst Chick Corea (Concord), Joey DeFrancesco (Highnote) and Trombone Shorty (Verve).

"Cherry Avenue" (Panout Music Group) - was no. 37 on Root Music Report's "TOP 50 Jazz Album Chart" amongst esteemed company including: Dave Holland & Kenny Barron (#38), Walter Smith III (#41), Wes Montgomery (#44), and was on the ballot for Nomination in the 58th Grammy Awards under "Best Vocal Jazz Album".

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## ~ THE BAND LEADER ~

(271 words) -

Originally from Coldwater, Ohio, **Jason Lee Bruns** (b. 1979) is a drummer, bandleader and producer specializing in crossover jazz and world drumming. Since 2002, he has called Los Angeles home.

As a young boy, Bruns took a job delivering newspapers to pay for his first drum set and private lessons. Countless hours of practice later, he earned a full-tuition music scholarship to Miami

University in Oxford, Ohio. After graduating, Bruns auditioned and was selected for one of only two available drummer spots in USC's Master of Jazz Studies program.

Today, as Bandleader of *The Bruns Collective*, Jason draws from his first-hand musical experiences in Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Trinidad & Tobago and West Africa—giving an authentic world-flavor to crossover jazz. In addition to drumming, Bruns writes and arranges for the eight-member group—which can be heard regularly at top venues across Los Angeles.

As a producer, Bruns specializes in LIVE multi-track recording techniques. Using this method, he has produced nine albums including *Live At Catalina* (2012) and *Cherry Avenue* (2015)—which both earned top-10 status on the Jazz Charts and radio-play throughout the U.S.

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**~ CONTACT ~**

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