

Brunns

~ BIOGRAPHY ~

Full Bio (570 words) -

Originally from the farming village of Coldwater, Ohio, Jason Lee **Brunns** (b. 1979) has called Los Angeles home since 2002. His work has been prominently influenced by American jazz, Brazilian, and Cuban music.

As a boy, Brunns found himself side-stage during concerts at local fairgrounds—watching drummers and fascinated by the inner-workings of the drum set. Brunns had to have drums of his own! He took a job delivering newspapers (coincidentally, for the *Vandalia Drummer News*), saved his earnings to buy a drum set and began riding public transportation more than 45 minutes each way to a music store in Dayton, Ohio. There, he used his paperboy money to pay for private drum lessons. A few years and countless hours of practice later, Brunns became the first member of his family to attend college, earning a full-tuition music scholarship to Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

After hearing Terri Lyne Carrington's drumming on "Cotton Tail" (Herbie Hancock's *Gershwin's World*), Brunns auditioned and was selected for one of only two available drummer spots in USC's Master of Jazz Studies program. He packed up his drum kit and his love of jazz and headed off to Los Angeles to study with Carrington and other greats—including Peter Erskine (*Weather Report*).

Now, he leads a multi-genre group comprised of many talented performers he met at USC. As Bandleader of *The Brunns Collective* – featuring vocalist, Kevin **Baché** – Brunns 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, Brunns writes and arranges for the eight-member group—which can be heard regularly at top venues in Los Angeles including Catalina, Vibrato, Vitello's, LACMA and Santa Monica's Reed Park. In 2017 and 2019, *The Brunns Collective* toured in Japan.

As a producer, Brunns specializes in LIVE multi-track recording techniques, where an entire band records together in the studio, without overdubs. Using this method, Brunns has produced nine albums including *Live At Catalina* (2012) and *Cherry Avenue* (2015)—which both earned top-10 status on the Jazz Charts and airtime on hundreds of radio stations throughout the U.S.

Bruns

Bruns' versatility and passion for the origins of rhythm has brought depth and heart to the studio for Beck's *Sound & Vision*, *Game of Thrones* (Season 3) and to live performances with Louis Price (*The Temptations*) and two-time BBC Jazz Award winner, Liane Carroll – just to name a few.

In 2007, Bruns' "First Take" method on sight-reading rhythmic notation was published by the Percussive Arts Society and in 2017 he was invited to speak at St. Petersburg College in Florida. There, he also joined the annual St. Petersburg Jazz Festival - as a featured performer.

When not recording or on tour, Bruns travels the world, immersing himself in the study of indigenous percussion instruments and gaining creative inspiration for new rhythms, musical combinations and arrangements. In 2007, he hand-picked local Cuban musicians off the streets of Havana—and joined them at the famous Egrem Studio (*Buena Vista Social Club*) to record a vibrant rendition of "Gandinga, Mondongo, Y Sandunga."

Bruns holds degrees in Classical Percussion (B.M., Miami University), Jazz Studies (M.M., University of Southern California) and Music Production (M.M., Berklee College of Music). He is a member of the American Federation of Musicians (Local 47), a BMI composer, a contributing author to the Percussive Arts Society, and a voting member of the Grammy Awards.

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Medium Bio (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*, Bruns 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.



Bruns' versatility and passion for the origins of rhythm has brought depth and heart to the studio for Beck's *Sound & Vision*, *Game of Thrones* (Season 3) and to live performances with Louis Price (*The Temptations*) and two-time BBC Jazz Award winner, Liane Carroll.

When not recording or on tour, Bruns travels the world, immersing himself in the study of indigenous percussion instruments. He holds degrees in Classical Percussion (B.M., Miami University), Jazz Studies (M.M., University of Southern California) and Music Production (M.M., Berklee College of Music).

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Short Bio (104 words) -

Originally from Coldwater, Ohio, **Bruns'** (b.1979) passion for drumming took him from delivering newspapers for private lesson money, to Miami University on a music scholarship, to USC's Jazz Studies program.

Today, Bruns travels the globe in search of new rhythms and draws on these musical experiences to lead Los Angeles-based crossover jazz group, *The Bruns Collective*.

He's produced nine albums – including two that charted in the top-10– and holds a B.M. degree in Classical Percussion and M.M. degrees in Jazz Studies and Music Production.

Notable projects include Beck's *Sound & Vision*, *Game of Thrones*, Louis Price, and Liane Carroll.

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Mini Bio (48 Words) -

Bruns (b. 1979) travels the globe in search of new rhythms. Leads Los Angeles-based crossover jazz group, *The Bruns Collective*. Produced two top-10 charting records. Has masters degrees in Jazz Studies and Music Production. Performed with Beck, Louis Price, Liane Carroll, *on* *Game of Thrones* commercial.

~ QUOTES ~

"...Bruns is a highly adept drummer and percussionist who can easily sound like two or three players at once. Ultra-precise and amazingly peripatetic... ~ FAME Review, M.S. Tucker

Bruns

"...His [Bruns] looseness and musicality are impressive and it is evident that he has a deep understanding of many musical styles." ~Terri Lyne Carrington, Jazz Drummer

"I knew Bruns Lee as a drummer/percussionist with an irresistible groove..." ~ Don Heckman, International Review of Music

"...a rhythmic colorist who works beyond his drum set ...His polyrhythmic inventions come from a head-full of sounds. His capacity to be creative is truly impressive and Mr. Bruns is melodic to boot...~JAZZ DA GAMA, Raul da Gama

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

"...[Bruns] is a world traveler who has sought after authentic musical experiences straight from the source, Cuba's forbidden heartland, Brazil's slum- and crime-ravaged favelas, Trinidad and Tobago's humble but rich culture." ~ Examiner.com Q & A

" Bruns is a very well trained and versatile musician who brings commitment and a contagious enthusiasm to everything he is involved in." ~Alan Estes, Studio Percussionist

"...an impressive performer and composer in his own right...Bruns is the real deal!" ~ George S. Clinton, Film Composer

"Bruns and Baché, like stellar predecessors Louie Bellson and Mel Torme, are skilled musicians/arrangers." ~ Don Heckman, International Review of Music

"Bruns' brush work is excellent" ~ Geannine Reid, All About Jazz

"...He aims to guide and influence the group with no mercy shown. Follow me, he's expressing, keep up or die!" ~ L.A. Jazz Scene

"A hard swinging drummer, Bruns has been leading his crew from one success to another for the last several years of setting the night on fire in California." ~ Midwest Records

"With an affinity for Latin/Afro-Caribbean sounds leading the way, whether rocking or jazzing or mixing up both, Bruns delivers a party groove that is so on the natch that he makes covers his own with an undetectable ease ... ~ Midwest Records

Bruns

"...Bruns is not only a talented drummer, but also a skilled composer and arranger.."
~Audiophile Review Magazine

"...Bruns gives it punch, makes it inviting and easy to embrace." ~O's Place Jazz Magazine by D. Oscar Groomes

"...Bruns, a Drummer's Drummer who gets to call his own shots and comes up with tempos, sounds and arrangements that appeal to him..." ~Music Man, Robert Nicosia

~ 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.

"45 RPM" - Jason Lee Bruns (2011) - *Traditional Jazz* - E.P.

"LACE" - Los Angeles Caribbean Ensemble (2009) - *Tropical* - E.P.

"THE EGREM SESSION" - Jason Lee Bruns (2008) - *Latin Jazz* - SINGLE

"WITH JASON GAMER" - JLB Collective (2008) - *Traditional Jazz* - E.P.

"WHERE I'M GOING" - Jason Lee Bruns (2006) - *Tropical* - SINGLE

~ LINKS ~

[Press Photos](#)

Making of Cherry Avenue Album -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8LGBLpMQfdE&feature=youtu.be>

Live at Catalina Highlight Reel -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ap5FYjs3AgE>

Official Website -

BrunsBeats.com

Bruno

Record Label -

PanoutMusicGroup.com

Facebook -

facebook.com/BrunoBeats/

YouTube -

youtube.com/JasonLeeBruno

Instagram -

instagram.com/BrunoBeats/

Twitter -

twitter.com/JasonLeeBruno

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