

SIMON B. ROWE

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BIOGRAPHY

Simon Rowe teaches Jazz Piano, Jazz Studies and serves as the Coordinator of the Music Industry Program at MSU Moorhead.

Before coming to MSU Moorhead he taught for two years as part of the Jazz Faculty at Eastern Illinois University. As a pianist, Dr. Rowe has been most active in the Midwest, in St. Louis as a member of the Willie Akins Quartet and then in Indianapolis and the Fargo-Moorhead area as the leader of his own trio. As the founder of the tri-college combo program and "Jazz at Studio 222", Dr Rowe maintains a strong interest in jazz education in the FM community and beyond.

His playing associations include Dizzy Gillespie, Dave Leibman, Tim Hagens, John Fedchock, Mulgrew Miller, Jimmy Heath, Stephanie Nakasian, Lucia Newell, Debbie Duncan, Willie Akins, Jeanne Trevor, Bob Mintzer, Luqman Hamza, Marvin Stamm, Dianne Schurr and Claudio Roditi. In 1997, Dr. Rowe founded "Catalyst Productions", a record label dedicated to documenting and championing the work of some of the Midwest's most outstanding jazz artists.

To date he has played on and produced four national releases for Catalyst, featuring St. Louis' Willie Akins and Jeanne Trevor and Kansas City's Luqman Hamza . The CD, "Flamingo", features the work of his Indianapolis-based trio and his 2007 release "Live at The Hodo" features his current group. As a native Australian, Dr. Rowe has strong international ties, in his homeland and as far afield as Torino Italy, where he performed as musical director for esteemed St. Louis vocalist Jeanne Trevor. Having studied at Northwestern University and the New South Wales Conservatorium of Music, Mr. Rowe completed his undergraduate degree in Jazz Studies at Eastern Illinois University. Moving to the St. Louis area, he completed his Masters work at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and has recently completed a Doctorate at the University Of Illinois.