ARTIST STATEMENT
Entering The Jazz Gallery gives one the warm feeling of coming home. Immediately you enjoy the potent sense of community shared by the musicians and listeners of first class Jazz music. While my art has been impacted by The Fountain Gallery, The Arts Students League, Jazz Standard, Smalls, Zinc Bar and Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Jazz Gallery has helped my growth as a person and artist committed to the music and its makers.

The late Dale Fitzgerald, whom I considered to be a strong father figure, likened my drawings to the way a chess player plots his moves. He said I was 12 steps ahead when plotting my composition. His gravity of voice and character coaxed many great creations of art and music. His encouragement and commitment has been replaced by a very capable line of executive directors, including Debbie Steinglass, and currently Janet Luhrs.

I would also like to thank many here who encourage me to draw: Lezlie Harrison, Maira Liriano, Meera Duggal, Edward Gavitt, Ken Kimerling, Gammy Miller, Heidi Glaeser, David Mitchell, Doug Pulaski, & Jeff Putterman.

I am thankful for the programming that Rio Sakairi maintains with ingenuity and integrity. As you look at the art, you will see arrangements, (like Joe Sander’s 4 basses, & Joe Feidler’s Low Register band), that were all commissioned by The Jazz Gallery with a sense of adventure. I hope that those who are introduced to The Jazz Gallery help support it’s mission akin to music for music’s sake.

ABOUT THE JAZZ GALLERY
Dedicated to encouraging and facilitating artistic risk-taking and nurturing young talent, The Jazz Gallery is a non-profit international jazz cultural center - a hub of creativity and a home to jazz musicians and composers from around the world.


The Jazz Gallery takes pride in identifying and nurturing young talent: 10 of the last 13 winners of the prestigious Thelonious Monk Competition cut their teeth on our stage. Additionally, five MacArthur ‘Genius Grant’ Fellowship recipients—Steve Coleman (2014), Vijay Iyer (2013), Dafnis Prieto (2011), Jason Moran (2010), and Miguel Zenón (2008)—started out as bandleaders at The Jazz Gallery. Of them, four were commissioned to write original compositions by The Gallery, and each continues to perform here.

Every musician appearing at The Jazz Gallery, whether emerging or established, recognizes that it is an environment in which he or she can freely experiment, workshop new material, and develop as artists. The Jazz Gallery’s recent seasons have included emerging pioneers such as Ambrose Akinmusire, Darcy James Argue, John Escreet, Linda Oh, John Ellis, Justin Brown, Jen Shyu, Ingrid Laubrock, and Lage Lund, as well as established leaders such as Ravi Coltrane, Roy Hargrove, Lee Konitz, and Henry Threadgill.