

BRIAN MCCARTHY
Burlington, VT

Selmer Paris endorsed artist Brian McCarthy is an active player, composer and educator. All About Jazz says he "touches those roads Joshua Redman travels on with a fresh footing," and John Barron of World Jazz Blog says "Saxophonist Brian McCarthy takes a progressive approach to straight-ahead jazz. Rock musicians such as Guster, Mike Gordon and Trey Anastasio have utilized his talents for writing.

**CONTACT &
MORE INFORMATION**

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"Layered, textural, and complex...out of this world"

- Steve MacQueen,
Artistic Director
Flynn Center

"As they played, the journey from the Civil War battleground to the stage played out in my head"

-Audience Member

The Better Angels of Our Nature

A Brian McCarthy Nonet Project



2014 Creation Grant recipient from the Vermont Arts Council, McCarthy brings to life *The Better Angels of Our Nature*; a concert program that re-imagines music and events from the American Civil War through the artistic language of jazz. This 9-piece ensemble also brings together a diverse group of musicians (age, gender, race, disability) and provides all the power and color of a big band, while maintaining the intimacy of a small group.

"The Better Angels of Our Nature" is a quote from Lincoln in his first inaugural address, in which he pleaded to both Union and what would become the Confederacy to avoid conflict with one-another. Though his plea was unsuccessful, this horrific conflict wiped the American stage clean, eventually turning oppression into a flourishing artistic culture. Out of this devastating war arose one of Lincoln's "Better Angels," the original American art form of Jazz.



This Project is NEST ELIGIBLE

Non-profit organizations located in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island or Connecticut, are eligible to receive funding support through The New England Foundation for the Arts' N.E.S.T. Grant.