


A portrait of Jon Sass, a Black man with a shaved head, wearing a black button-down shirt. He is resting his chin on his hand and looking thoughtfully at the camera. A brass instrument, likely a tuba or euphonium, is visible in the bottom right corner. The background is dark.

Jon Sass

Corporate Groove

Jon Sass is an official  **YAMAHA** Artist



... more inspiring than words allow!

The Corporate Groove

**garnish your event or
book an exclusive seminar**

**with one of the world's most successful,
versatile & unique brass musician**

**create your own company groove
and pick it up for motion**

Live Music, Solo or Band Options, with optional Multimedia ...

Lecture, Interview, Discussion ... with Multimedia and/or live music

According to my family history, life and unique world career, I'm challenging today's most important corporate business buzz words ... follow my journey ... **with heart & soul ...**

- **Diversity**, Sustainability, Agility, Entrepreneurship
- Innovation, **Digitalization**, Transformation
- Motivation, Commitment, **Teambuilding**
- Creativity, **Self-confidence**, Self-reflection

(Can be organized with professional video transmission from stage)

**Unique Team Building & Self-Experience ... play the tuba ...
... from 0 to 100 ... let's go!**

Corporate teams are invited to participate in an exclusive and unforgettable seminar with one of the world's most innovative and versatile brass playing personalities, your host ... tuba soloist JON SASS. This seminar welcomes up to 8 corporate members to participate in an experience learning to play music with the tuba and to experience an **unique perspective on creativity**, and a goal designed to **internalize a different way to think about ourselves as individuals**, bringing to light an effective understanding for **successful teamwork** related objectives.

Target Groups: Board Members & Leaders in Business & Politics, Managers, Team members

Biography



Jon Sass is well known as a true **Groove Master** and to be arguably one of the **most creative tuba players today!** His imitable approach and **soulful sound** on the tuba have led him to a **truly unique career**. Born in New York City, Jon grew up in Harlem and started playing tuba at 14. Playing Professional playing happened very early. Four years after he started playing, he literally found himself in university while simultaneously commuting between Boston, Vienna, and New York at the age of 18.

With choices on his horizon, **Jon chose to move to Vienna** after graduating from Boston University. Offers came soon after he arrived. Throughout that time **he has played, recorded, and toured worldwide with the crème de la crème of musicians** and featured together with artists such as Ivan Neville, Vince Mendoza, Peter Wolf, Ricky Ford, Bobby Shew, Steven Mead, chamber ensembles of the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic, in duo with Dave Taylor, Hazmat Modine, Doug Hammond, Arkady Shilkloper, Wolfgang Puschnig, and Millagros Pin Era. Other artists include Ray Anderson, Michelle Rosewoman, David Murray, Sunny Murray, Butch Morris, James Spaulding, Leon Thomas, Peter Erskine, Frank Foster, Erika Stucky, Henry Threadgill, Hans Theessink, Linda Tillery and the Heritage Cultural Choir, Howard Johnson Heavy Tuba, and Vienna Art Orchestra.

As a solo artist, he's featured with Major European Big-bands to Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Symphonic Wind Ensembles as well as many feature events. **Jon composes his own music** and has arranged music for the James Brown Horns. **He can be heard on over 100 recordings**. After years of playing as frontman or ensemble member, re-evaluating the picture of his life as a musician took a turning point. **A creative process began around that time reflecting a hunger for self-expression** and satisfy the inner-child. Exactly that, was the result of his first **solo CD SASSIFIED**, which was "my **own therapy to satisfy my soul**, intended to be shared with others". This CD received great response and is **considered a milestone for the genre of brass playing**.

Although rare for a tuba player, **Jon creates his own music and performance concepts** such as the **multi-media programs** "Sassified-Live" and "Sassy the Tuba". He also developed a basis for progressive creative thinking called **Creative Impulse** which has inspired the creation of play-along books from Editions BIM and TMV records, and for **team-building seminars- such as Corporate Groove**.

Jon's worldview is that "all things in our universe are connected, and music has the power to heal, create positive emotions, bring different people together and provide enlightenment!"

Credits

"Sass could revolutionize the tuba." (**Edmonton Sun, Canada**)

"That kinda leaves you with raised eyebrows. Tuba player did his homework, he was right on the money: tipitipi-ta-bome!" (**Clark Terry – Downbeat Magazine**)

"Jonathan McClain Sass, a virtuoso tuba player from Harlem who now lives in Vienna, defied the reputation of unwieldy instrument by playing exquisite trills that fluttered off into silence." (**The New York Times**)

My Own Quotes



As a musician, I play for my audience, not for myself. With Corporate Groove I have the same intention of sharing that what I have learned as it connects with my inner truth!

The diversity I have experienced in my life inspired and required a self-awareness which empowered movement beyond commonly perceived boundaries with or without the tuba. Simply put ... it led to an understanding of the power of Creativity ... both external and internal.

Playing music provides insight into how respectful and amiable communication is a basis for realizing a creative culture driven by improvisation.

Corporate Groove Programm: play the tuba - unique team building

The characteristics of the individual becomes characteristics of the group. Members needs to lose their individuality, but this is how the most effective teams' function. **When a group creates a good vibe, it works as one with a group consciousness – The Corporate Groove**

Phase 1

- Why the tuba? // The basic seminar rules // Choose your tuba // Basic tuba tips // Learn to play

REFLECTIONS: CREATIVITY IMPULSE//CREATIVE CENTER //WORKING WITH LIMITATIONS -fear, etc. // A CREATIVE CIRCLE //HOW WE ACTIVATE OUR CREATIVE POWER?

Presentation Corporate Groove – Gritzner Film

- Sound Production // Warm Up- and Putting it together // Playing music

Phase 2

- Warm Up // Individual instruction // Ensemble Play

REFLECTIONS: STRENGTHEN THE VIBE//DEALING WITH WEAKNESS//CONFLICT //BEING FLEXIBLE//THE EGO//ACTIVE LISTENING //ACTIVE SPEAKING

- Warm Up // Individual instruction // Ensemble Play

REFLECTIONS: IF EVERYONE WERE TO FOLLOW YOU HOW WOULD YOU LEAD THEM? //ACTIVATING THE CORPORATE GROOVE//The IMPULSE//CREATIVE CENTER//CREATIVE GROUP//EXTENSION

- **JAM SESSION or Rehearsal**

The program is scalable from a stand-alone program to a variety spending accompanying program for business workshops and events. Tubas, Background Band, Location, etc. are on individual request. Please ask me for your customized solution. **Glad to consult YOU.**

Further Reference Examples



RAP MOBIL – For teens both in public schools and vocational schools. I found this a perfect tool for youth to develop self-expression, confidence, communications skills, self-expression, creative skills (**Jugend Am Werk**)

JUST MUSIC – Serious Music lovers come together 3-5 days to develop their musical skills, ideas, instrumental and vocal songwriting realized (**GEA Akademie-3x yearly and Vienna group**)

IF EVERYONE WERE TO FOLLOW YOU, WHERE WOULD YOU LEAD THEM? AN AFRICAN AMERICAN IN VIENNA -This is a **motivational presentation for low-income and minority students** in the US, supported by the (**University Wisconsin Minority Affairs Department**)

TEACHERS TRAINING for Music and the Arts. Pending on the areas needed, a curriculum or program can be developed to achieve different objectives (**Upper-Austria Musikdirektion Schloss Weinberg-/ Kefermarkt, Austria**)

CORPORATE GROOVE-Team Building for companies and institutional groups (**Innovations Congress Villach Aust. and Zukunfts Initiative-Klagenfurt**)

CREATIVITY SCHOOL-Book, DVD, Play-along CD. An ensemble workshop (TMV Records)

SASSY THE TUBA – Multi-Media Theatre for kids with 6-person production team. (**Moers Jazz Fest, Frankfurt Jazz Fest, Konzerthaus Wien, diverse Tours for Family and school concerts**)

SASSIFIED LIVE – Multi-Media Solo Program-with Visual Artist and Electronics Artist (**Porgy & Bess Vienna**)

JON SASS BASSLINE BOOK - Based on Sassified CD (Editions BIM)

CREATIVE IMPULSE UNIVERSITY TOUR in the USA- Creative Impulse for Instrumentalists, (Univ Minnesota, Wisconsin, New England Conservatorium, University of Iowa and Northern Iowa)

Sassified Reflections

Jon Sass seems to be born as a tuba. His instrument is the extension of his soul. The point where the sophistication of technology has come to an end is where Jon Sass begins (**Christian Kolonovits, Prominent Austrian Producer**)

More than a piece of art. A synthesis of arts. Jon Sass plays the tuba, as it has rarely been heard or never before. The music oscillates between Afro-American funk, jazz, soul, and classic and shows Jon Sass appointing the sound of his instrument in an innovative and even in a humorous way. What is presented here, is without a doubt a milestone in the history of Tuba (**Akro, Kulturwoche**)

The new definition of an already known instrument! Sassified is a unique recording, being a Tuba-Solo-album. Thrilling – it's unbelievably diversified. Most amazingly with this foray through the enormously colored universe of Jon Sass, an album has resulted, not only showing tuba-students what's possible but also a very well audible Jazz-CD with a very exceptional instrument (**Der Schallplattenmann**)

I feel this is the most creative recording ever made by a tuba artist. It is, as he says, a Jon recording...he just happened to play the tuba. The writing is incredibly fresh, a great mix of today's music with classical and jazz vocabulary used as well to keep the listener alert and unable to predict where it will go next. This is not easy to create in today's music and still GROOVE as hard as this disc!!! The time is killer!!! (**Sam Pilafian, Tuba Professor USA**)