



JONATHAN BARBER

New York City-based Jonathan Barber was voted the #1 Up-and-Coming Drummer of 2018 in Modern Drummer.

At the age of 30, he has already recorded and toured worldwide with such artists as Pat Metheny, Nicholas Payton, Buster Williams, Jeremy Pelt, Wallace Roney, Jennifer Holliday, Jimmy Greene, Harold Mabern, Steve Davis, Erykah Badu, Brooklyn Philharmonic and many more. In addition to his first-call status as a sideman, Barber has recently stepped forth as a composer and bandleader of 'Jonathan Barber & Vision Ahead'. He released his debut album entitled 'Vision Ahead' in 2018 followed by his sophomore album "Legacy Holder" in 2020. 'Legacy Holder' was received with high acclaim from the likes of Jazziz, Modern Drummer and Downbeat Magazine who gave the album a 4.5 star review.

In September 2019, Barber completed his first solo drum tour in Latin America (Mexico, Guatemala, Ecuador, Colombia, Argentina) and this was followed with a 5 city solo drum tour of China in December of the same year.

Barber now stands at the centre of a dynamic career that fuses music, education and fashion endeavours. Looking into the future he plans to continue this momentum by releasing more independent music, building partnerships and providing a platform and voice for the next generation of musicians.

ENDORSEMENTS

istanbul
Agop Handmade cymbals from Turkey

Ludwig

sensory
percussion

EVANS
DRUMHEADS

PROMARK
BY D'ADDARIO

ROBERT MARC
NEW YORK

"I recognize my God given gift. Maximizing this gift to its full potential is the best thing you can do for yourself. Operating in this gift is how you give back to the world."
- Jonathan Barber

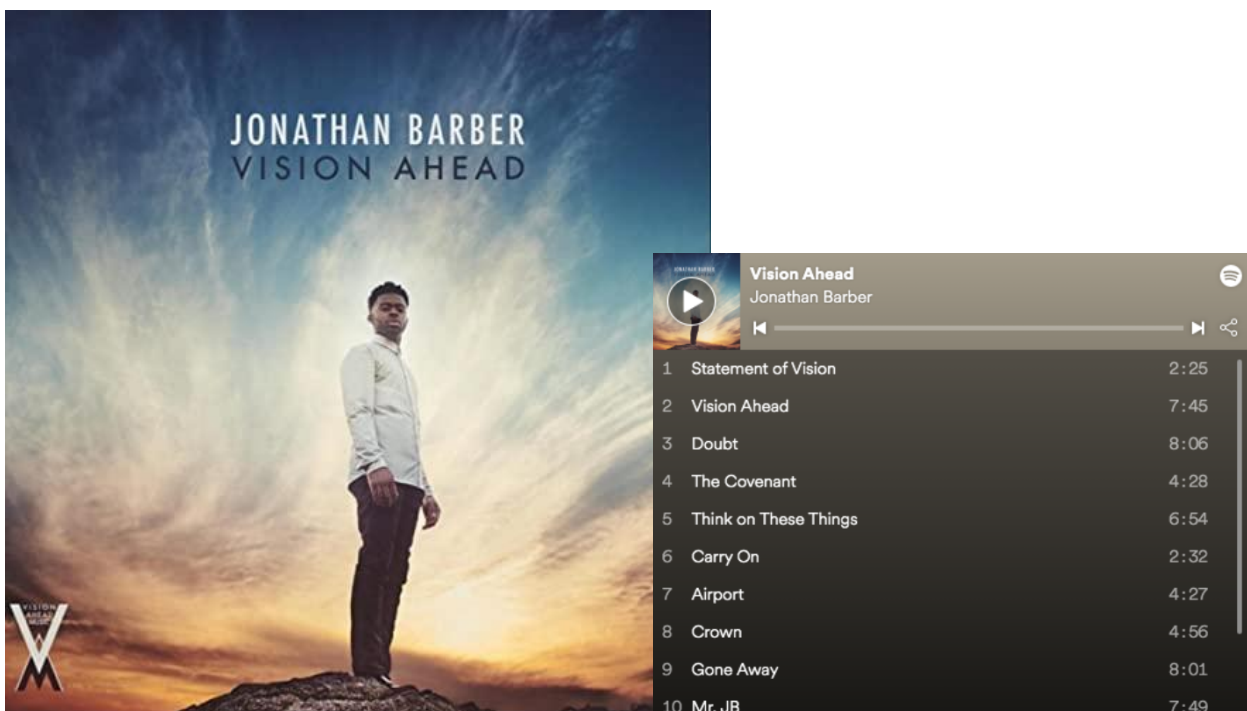
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ALBUMS

2020 'LEGACY HOLDER'



2018 'VISION AHEAD'



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VIDEOS

LIVE @ B-SIDE | VISION AHEAD



LIVE @ JAZZ STANDARD | MAJOR



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PRESS



Jonathan Barber & Vision Ahead *Legacy Holder*

VISION AHEAD MUSIC
★★★★½

Jonathan Barber's star has been on the rise since his auspicious 2018 debut, *Vision Ahead*, and a 2019 tour in Pat Metheny's trio. The Hartford native's sophomore release, *Legacy Holder*, more than fulfills his promise, showcasing powerfully slick drumming within the context of adventurous writing that bears the unmistakable influence of *Atlantis*-era Wayne Shorter.

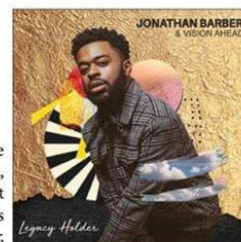
The reflective title track highlights some fluid improvising by guitarist Andrew Renfroe and builds toward exhilarating heights through old-school trading of eights between pianist Taber Gable and pungent-toned altoist Godwin Louis. The runaway uptempo swinger "Major" is charged by Barber's forward momentum on the kit in tandem with Matt Dwonszyk's insistent walking bass lines. "Son Of Hartford" opens with Barber slamming against some angular arpeggiated unisons from Renfroe and Louis, recalling classic Mahavishnu Orchestra. If Barber is indeed a legacy holder, he's continuing in a lineage of adventurous drummer-composers spanning Tony Williams and Terri Lyne Carrington. There's an abundance of heightened energy and new ideas here, executed with pristine precision by the bandleader and his future-facing ensemble.

—Bill Milkowski

Legacy Holder: The Call; Find My Way; Legacy Holder; Haikus; Major; Seconds & Seasons; Son Of Hartford; 29. (43:13)

Personnel: Jonathan Barber, drums; Taber Gable, keyboards; Andrew Renfroe, guitar; Godwin Louis, alto saxophone; Matt Dwonszyk, bass; Mar Vilaseca (I), vocals, piano.

Ordering info: jonathanbarbermusic.com



52 DOWNBEAT AUGUST 2020



TAKING THE REINS

Jonathan Barber & Vision Ahead *Legacy Holder*

Thirty-year-old drummer/composer Jonathan Barber's previous album, *Vision Ahead*, was noticeable for its solid compositions and mature drumming. *Legacy Holder* strides further, with Barber's fusion-leaning compositions and arrangements equaling his kinetic drumming.

Multiple listens are required to grasp *Legacy Holder's* scope. Throughout, Barber's drumming pops and scalds, swings and stings, in a personal style with a nod to Tony Williams. Though his touch on the drums and cymbals is light and dance-like, Barber consistently burns at low simmer.

Barber's full-set soloing concept and well-developed technique fills "Major"; he propels through-composed "29" with low-level, machine gun-like sticking (including a blistering, meter-twisting solo); apes heavy metal with the 4/4 swagger of "Son of Hartford"; and reveals compositional gifts with the Brazil-tinted "The Call." An album of subtlety and fire—more cerebral than stoner, more an inner world journey than an outward performance display—*Legacy Holder* retains its hypnotic spell for repeated plays. (Vision Ahead Music) **Ken Micallef**



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— Jonathan Barber

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ENDORSEMENTS

LUDWIG: "The Most Famous Name in Drums"



Jonathan Barber

 Conn-Selmer / Mar 18

ISTANBUL AGOP: "Handmade Cymbals from Turkey"

Two posters for Jonathan Barber's tour with Istanbul Agop. The left poster is for 'LATINOAMÉRICA SOLO DRUM TOUR 2019' and features Jonathan Barber holding a large cymbal. The right poster is for 'JONATHAN BARBER DRUM CLINIC TOUR CHINA 2019' and features him playing a drum. Both posters include the Istanbul Agop logo and a list of tour dates and locations.

istanbul Agop Handmade cymbals from Turkey.
LATINOAMÉRICA
SOLO DRUM | TOUR 2019
JONATHAN BARBER
VISION AHEAD ♡ PAT METHENY
♡ Premio revista Modern Drummer
REVELACIÓN 2018

29 AGO Ciudad de México
03 SEP Ciudad de Guatemala
06 SEP Bogotá
11 SEP Quito
13 SEP Buenos Aires

JONATHAN BARBER
DRUM CLINIC
TOUR CHINA 2019
istanbul Agop Handmade cymbals from Turkey.

12.12 YUNNAN, KUNMING
JIE ZHOU YI SHU PERCUSSION
12.13 HENAN, LUOYANG
MOGO MUSIC
12.14 ANHUI, HEFEI
WALKBEATS PERCUSSION
12.15 JIANGSU, NANJING
CHUN XIN PERCUSSION
12.16 BEIJING
HUAYI MUSICAL

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SUNHOUSE: "The makers of Sensory Percussion, next-gen electronic drum technology for the modern musician."




Evan Drumheads: "The World Leader in Drumheads."




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Promark Drumsticks: "Promark by D'Addario"



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