Rufus Reid, and Harold Danko—and spent the next two years touring the U.S. and Europe. After Thad Jones left the band, Perry continued playing with Mel Lewis, recording three LP's with him, including "Live in Montreux", and "Naturally". The band, with Perry as a key member, is now known as The Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, and continues to tour and record. Three of their recent CDs have been nominated for Grammy awards.

A highlight of Perry’s career has been his association with the gifted composer and arranger Maria Schneider. As a charter member of her orchestra, Perry has been featured on all of her CDs including, "Allegresse", "Coming About", "Evanesence", and the Grammy award winning "Concert In The Garden". Her latest recording, "Sky Blue", features "Rich's Piece", a beautiful composition written for him. He has performed with her in Europe, Asia, and throughout the U.S.

He has maintained a long-term friendship and collaboration with Harold Danko, begun during their days with Thad Jones/Mel Lewis. It has resulted in Perry's CDs "To Start Again", "Cancoes do Brasil", "At Eastman", "East Of The Sun", "Rhapsody", "You're My Everything" and "At The Kitano Vol 1". and Danko's CDs "Prestigious", "Nightscapes", "Stablemates", "Tidal Breeze", "New Autumn", "The Feeling of Jazz", "Next Age", and "Oatts & Perry".

Perry has recorded extensively for SteepleChase. The seventeen CDs he has recorded as a leader have featured such greats as George Mraz, Fred Hersch, Victor Lewis, Dennis Irwin, Scott Colley, Billy Hart, Frank Kimbrough, Jay Anderson, Renee Rosnes, Billy Drumond, George Colligan, and Tom Rainey.

Perry is also a member of the Pete Malinverni Quintet, Dave Scott Quintet, Christian Finger Band, George Mraz Quartet, with Richie Beirach, Billy Hart, and the John Fedchock New York Big Band. He has also played in several groups led by the pianist Fred Hersch.

Perry is a skilled instructor of jazz improvisation and is on the faculty of William Paterson University. He has led clinics and workshops at schools in the U.S. and abroad including The University of North Texas, The Eastman School of Music, Northern Iowa State University, University Of Oregon, IACP, Paris, and the AMR in Geneva, Switzerland, to name a few. His renown as a personable and experienced private instructor has brought him students from all over the world as well as from schools in the New York City area such as The New School, New York University, Manhattan School of Music, and The City College of New York.

[source: http://www.myspace.com/richperrymusic]
Jazz Choir

Deed I Do

Desafinado

Superstar

Swingle Song

Just Friends

All or Nothing At All

It’s Alright With Me

*       *       * Brief Intermission *       *       *

Jazz Ensemble

I Could Write A Book

Jive Samba

15 Step

Two Seconds to Midnight

Whisper Not

La Suerte De Los Tontos

Carmelo’s By the Freeway

Jazz Choir

Rose

Jobim

Russell

Meader

Klenner

Altman

Porter

Arr. Mike Tomaro

Arr. Alan Baylock

Arr. Matt Harris

Arr. Mike Tomaro

Adderley

Radiohead

Alan Baylock

Golson

Johnny Richards

From Cuban Fire Suite, Mvt. VI

Lauren White, Horn; Kathryn Rincker, Horn; Sherley Chabur, Trumpet
Andrew Bohnert, Tuba; Christian Van Hoose, Timpani

Jazz Ensemble

Saxophones

Wayne Ray

Phil Rosi

William Paige

Ryan Collins

Casey Racette

Arr. Alan Baylock

Adderley

Radiohead

Arr. Matt Harris

Trumpets

Manuel Hernandez

Dylan Carson

David Wiley

Stephen Wilkins

Rhythm Section

Logan Stambaugh, Guitar (GSA)
Darius Mines, Piano
Christian Van Hoose, Piano
Rick Kalinauskas II, Bass
Dennis Notherner, Drums/Perc.

Rich Perry has been living and performing in New York City since 1976. His beautiful tone and sophisticated harmonic conception have given him a unique creative voice which critics have described as “eloquent,” “inventive,” “thoughtfully lyrical” and “impassioned yet cerebral.”

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Perry became interested in jazz in high school, and studied briefly at Bowling Green State University, before moving to New York. In 1977 he joined the Thad Jones /Mel Lewis Orchestra—which at that time included Pepper Adams, Jerry Dodgion,