Brett Smith - Biography

Brett Smith is a saxophonist, composer and sound designer based in Perth, Western Australia.

A 2008 WAAPA graduate, Brett was the recipient of the Bendat Family Trust Scholarship for musical excellence. From 2009 to 2010 Brett travelled extensively throughout Europe where he undertook a secondment with minimalist composer Marin Pavon and the Museum of Flamenco Dance in Seville. He then utilised scholarship funding to study free improvisation and composition with Tony Malaby, Ellery Eskelin and Angelica Sanchez in New York. On returning to Perth, Brett completed his honours in Jazz Performance and since has studied percussion and contemporary dance accompaniment under Wency D’Souza whilst working as an accompanist at WAAPA.

Brett has conducted several workshops with high school big bands in Perth and has been conducting the Methodist Ladies College Jazz Band since 2013. As an instrumentalist, Brett has performed with The Chemist, Mace Francis Orchestra, Johannes Luebbers Septet, The Ben Vanderwal Experience, West Australian Youth Jazz Orchestra (WAYJO), James Morrison, Kate Ceberano, Daryl Somers, David Campbell, Rhonda Burchmore & Grace Knight. Brett has produced music for choreographers such as Jo Pollitt, Michael Whaites (LINK Dance Company), Laura Boynes, Chrissie Parrott, Unkempt Dance and Isabella Stone. As a percussionist, he has accompanied for choreographers such as Nanette Hassall, Leigh Warren, Xiaoxiong Zhang, Michael Whaites, Sue Peacock, Justin Rutzou, Claudia Alessi, Shona Erskine and Rachael Ogle.

Brett is currently an emerging artist with Black Swan State Theatre Company and is performing at the Montreux Jazz Festival with the Methodist Ladies College Jazz Band in 2014.