

# Saxophone Recording Artist *James Johnson*



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## Biography

James currently lives in Texas just south of Houston. His music career started as a compromise to his mother's persistent desire to see him play in the church orchestra when he was in elementary school. After about a year of his mother's persistence, James decided to play the clarinet to make his mom happy. Music seemed to come naturally as he progressed rapidly in band with very little effort or practice. He started branching out, playing other instruments and often played something different each month at church. His father realized that his son had a God-given ability and wanted to see him do well with his gift and wisely directed him to concentrate on becoming proficient on one of the several instruments at which he tried his hand. James got the message and took his father's advice and chose to focus on playing the saxophone in his mid-teens with his parents' enthusiastic support. Success came early in his music career as he won numerous International and American music competition awards and was hired to play clarinet and saxophone on gospel albums for other artists after graduating high school.

James now plays the soprano, alto, and tenor saxophones. While the saxophone is his primary instrument of choice, the use of keyboard and Digital Audio Workstations aid him in composing, recording, arranging, and producing his original music, videos, and web presentations. His smooth jazz playing style is often compared to that of Grover Washington Jr., Gerald Albright, George Howard, Najee, Kenny G., and David Sanborn. If you love their music, then James' latest all-original project, "A Figment of My Imagination" is one that you are sure to enjoy.

## Performance Venues

- G. W. Carver Event Center  
*Austin, TX*
- Mediterranean Talent Competition  
*England*
- Blues Alley of Georgetown  
*Washington, D.C.*
- River Bend Church  
*Austin, TX*
- Freedom Plaza  
*Washington, D.C.*
- AT & T Center  
*Washington, D.C.*
- Heritage Christian Center  
*Denver, CO*
- USAF World Wide Talent Contest  
*Fort Walton Beach, FL*
- National Combined Federal Campaign  
*Denver, CO*
- The Kennedy Center - Main Stage  
*Washington, D.C.*
- The Red Dragon Restaurant/Club  
*Adana, Turkey*

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