

# Amanda Gardier

## Saxophonist | Composer | Educator

Saxophonist, composer, and educator Amanda Gardier has been described as “a uniquely talented jazz composer and soloist” (Nuvo). With a diverse set of influences stemming from Miguel Zenon, The Bad Plus, Bjork, and more, Gardier is an alto saxophonist who juxtaposes the calmness of lush harmonies and cyclical melodies with the intensity of complex rhythms and fiery improvisation. Her first release with Green Mind Records, *Empathy*, was “a debut with a lot of something for everyone” (All About Jazz). With her second release, *Flyover Country*, Gardier “claims a space among rising saxophonists” (Downbeat) through the display of bold compositions and flexible improvisation. In addition to her work as a bandleader, Amanda is a current member of the US Navy Band Commodores jazz ensemble, where she is regularly featured as a soloist and woodwind doubler.

As a side musician, Amanda has performed with Ingrid Jensen, Dave Stryker, Leni Stern, Wayne Wallace, Wes "Warmdaddy" Anderson, Jamie Baum, Sal Lozano, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, the Buselli-Wallarab Jazz Orchestra, and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. She has also been a featured performer on five releases by the Charlie Ballantine Group—*Vonnegut* (2020), *Life is Brief: The Music of Bob Dylan* (2018), *Where is My Mind?* (2017), *Providence* (2016), and *Green* (2015).

As an educator, Amanda has served as the instructor of jazz saxophone at Ball State University, jazz saxophone faculty at the Indiana University Summer Saxophone Academy, band director and after-school jazz program director at Zionsville West Middle School, and teaching assistant at Birch Creek Music Performance Center.

Amanda holds a bachelor's degree in music education and a master's degree in jazz studies from Indiana University.

For more information, visit [www.agardier.com](http://www.agardier.com).