## Paul Wertico bio

Hailed in the press as "One of the most versatile and musical drummers in music today," Paul Wertico was a member of the Pat Metheny Group from 1983 to 2001. During that time, he won seven Grammy Awards (three for Best Jazz Fusion Performance, three for Best Contemporary Jazz Performance, and one for Best Rock Instrumental Performance), won numerous magazine polls, received several gold records, and played drums & percussion on David Bowie's hit recording (with the Pat Metheny Group), "This Is Not America."

In addition to winning awards as a member of the PMG, Wertico has also been voted "Fusion Drummer Of The Year" in *DRUM*! magazine's Reader's Poll and he was voted in

the faculty of Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing, where he is an Associate Professor of Jazz Studies, and he also headed the school's Jazz & Contemporary Music Studies program for five years. Before becoming a full-time faculty member at CCPA, he served on the wind & percussion faculty of Northwestern University for 16 years and also taught several years at the Bloom School of Jazz. Many of his students have gone on to have highly successful musical careers, ranging from being the drummers with legendary artists such as Prince, Wilco, and The Doobie Brothers, to being percussionists in classical ensembles and orchestras such as Third

today."; and "Wertico and his players have done something wonderful and rare: they've actually created something not only different, but also truly new." *LA Weekly* even wrote "His recent records, such as 2000's *Don't Be Scared Anymore* and the new *StereoNucleosis*, are stunning examples of the electronic, rhythmic and intellectual directions jazz could be going." Wertico's 2006 trio CD, *ANOTHER SIDE*, was described as "a brilliant collaborative effort between these three uniquely talented musicians."

His 2010 CD,

*Classic Drummer* magazine described as "One of the most ambitious records ever released. Recorded over a period of four years, it documents a completely new approach to combine elements of both Rock and Jazz music while resulting in a very listenable and captivating final product." Also in 2007, Wertico