

Steve Swell, born in Newark, New Jersey, has been living, working and performing in New York City since 1975. In the mid-seventies he studied with Roswell Rudd, Grachan Moncur III and Jimmy Knepper after attending Jersey City State Teacher's College. He has toured and recorded with such diverse jazz personalities as Lionel Hampton, Buddy Rich, William Parker, Anthony Braxton, Cecil Taylor and Jemeel Moondoc. Swell has 75 recordings as a leader or co-leader and is a featured artist on more than 150 other releases. He has received grants from USArtists International in 2006, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts, an MCAF award (LMCC) in 2008 & 2013 and was commissioned three times for the Interpretations Series at Merkin Hall in 2006 and at Roulette in 2012 and 2017. He was the Jazz Journalist's Association Trombonist of the Year nominee for 2008, 2011, & 2020, named Trombonist of the Year 2008-2010, 2012 & 2014-2021, 2023-2024 by El Intruso, an Argintinean Jazz journal and selected for the Downbeat Critics Poll in the Trombone category from 2010-2018 & 2020-2024 Steve is a Teaching Artist in the NYC public school system working with special needs children and was awarded the 2008 Jubilation Foundation Fellowship Award of the Tides Foundation for recognition of that work. Steve has a BA in Music from SUNY Empire.