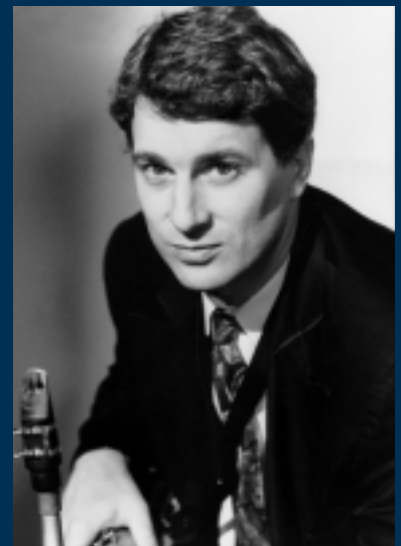


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Lead alto and featured tenor saxophonist for the Harry Connick Jr. Big Band/Quartet

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## bio

Charles Ned Goold was born near Chicago and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He moved to New York in 1983 and spent the latter part of the 80's performing regularly at the legendary Village Gate with a trio he formed with bassist Ben Wolfe. During this time, Goold started experimenting with hybrid forms of twelve tone composition and metric modulations incorporated into standard blues and jazz chord structures. In 1990, he began a long-standing gig with Harry Connick Jr. and currently plays lead alto and serves as musical director of the big band. He is also featured on tenor with Harry's quartet, which recorded the critically acclaimed *OTHER HOURS* in 2003. His trio spent the summer of 1999 as the opening act for Connick and was featured at the JVC Newport Jazz Festival as well as other major venues around the country (documented on his latest CD, *THE FLOWS*). Goold continued to hone his compositional system during a year-long engagement at Smalls in New York City that started in the Fall of 2000. He has produced three independently released CDs, samples of which can be heard at [NedGoold.com](http://NedGoold.com), along with whole tunes recorded by his current group.

He continues to live outside of New York City with his wife and two children.

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## discography

### **Ned Goold**

- 1998 Goold
- 1999 Entropy
- 2004 The Flows

### **With Harry Connick Jr.**

- 1991 Blue Light, Red Light
- 1992 25
- 1993 When My Heart Finds Christmas
- 1995 Star Turtle
- 1997 To See You
- 1999 Come By Me
- 2001 Songs I Heard
- 2003 Others Hours
- 2003 Harry for the Holidays
- 2004 Only You

### **With Ben Wolfe**

- 1997 13 Sketches
- 1998 Bagdad Theater
- 2001 Murray's Cadillac

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## reviews

Downbeat / June 2004  
Ned Goold / "The Flows"  
★★★★ (Four stars)

A much more vertical player, Goold navigates his trio through a maze of customized tonal structure on "The Flows". His sense of extended harmony which constantly reminds of the melody to Thelonious Monk's Epistrophy emerges from the get-go on the short solo intro to the opening track.

Rather than use the customary in/out/in approach to advanced soloing, Goold constantly keeps the listener on his toes with an out/in/out approach that sounds downright upside-down.

With Goold ever super-imposing his ideas over standard progressions (as well as his own originals), an underlying bitonality results, giving each cut a distinct, off-center slant that screams originality. Bassist Ben Wolfe follows the leader closely, showing a firm grasp of Goold's concept as he walks the pocket and solos aggressively. Check out how Goold and Wolfe switch roles on "Edsol," with the saxophonist holding down the tune's three-beat signature to accompany the bassist extended hemiola in four.

Quality of material, expert performance, and sheer inventiveness help Goold and his trio rise above such unfavorable recording conditions as loud audience chatter, cable/tape noise and varying degrees of poor bass clarity.

"The Flows" represents Goold's finest trio work to date; too bad the sound has to suffer.

— Ed Enright

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## reviews

### The Boston Phoenix:

Granted, drummer Arthur Latin II alluded to a rootsy New Orleans shuffle throughout the night, but Connick and tenor-saxophonist Ned Goold favored solos full of understated, odd, fragmentary lines. Goold in particular is fascinating in his use of dynamics and his variety of timbres, his use of rests, his shifts into double-time passages, his slippery phrases that are now light and pure, now rich in glottal rumbles.

### The Daily Cougar:

"Every time I record, I hope to happen upon magical musical moments," Connick said. "They're completely unpredictable and usually rare. You can never count on them.

"But thanks to some extraordinary musicians that blessed me with their presence on this recording, you can," Connick continued. "Ned Goold's tenor solo on 'Change Partners' is a classic. I was just lucky enough to be in the studio when it happened."

### Jornal Do Brasil:

Translation from Portuguese: "Charles Ned Goold – received one of 12 coveted grants last year from the Chamber Music Organization – is a fine saxophonist, with a "cool" sound, but with direct and incisive phrasing a la Sonny Rollins. "

### All About Jazz:

"Saxophonist Charles Goold brings a nice compliment to Connick's lyrical style. With vibrancy and depth, his reedy tenor voice along with Connick's innate sense of melody is humbly reminiscent of the great Thelonious Monk collaborations with tenor saxophonist Charlie Rouse."

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Marsalismusic.com:

"Ned's approach is very deep and complicated," Connick marvels, "but we share the same ideals in music. He likes to be funky, he thinks bebop is great, and he understands the value of a pretty sound. He plays my music as well as anybody could."

All About Jazz interview with Ben Wolfe:

Stephen A. Smith for AAJ, "You describe yourself and Ned as musical partners. Is he a factor, present in your mind, when you're composing?"  
Ben Wolfe, "He's a factor, in that I know that I'll have my favorite musician on the planet playing, who I know will play a melody a way that I will be glad it was played that way. I don't have to tell Ned anything. I love the way he plays. He's a complete artist, man. That's his thing. He's very dedicated to art. And he plays that way. He's a very rare musician, because he doesn't try to knock people out. He doesn't show off. He works on things, and he plays what he believes in, even if people don't notice it. I love the way he plays. "