Instantly recognizable for her sophisticated and spiritual sound, Jordan Pettay has performed with many of the world’s premier jazz, R&B and hip-hop artists including Christian McBride, Adrian Younge, Lizzo and Grammy-nominated vocalist Nicole Zuraitis. She resides in New York City, where she appears regularly as a freelance artist, educator and leader of The Jordan Pettay Quartet. Her debut album First Fruit, which features a blend of jazz, R&B and gospel influences was released February 2019.

“The sort of soloist who can translate the power of a spiritual journey into musical terms”

—Jazz Times

As a child growing up in Ft. Worth, Texas, Jordan drew early inspiration from the classic jazz recordings of Charlie Parker and Duke Ellington, as well as the gospel music she was immersed in. She sought to attain the musical depth of the jazz masters while maintaining the raw and sacred feeling of the church. In high school Jordan commuted four hours daily to attend the Booker T. Washington Performing Arts High School in Dallas, and in 2008 received a full scholarship to attend The Juilliard School in New York City.

At Juilliard, Jordan was mentored by iconic New York saxophonists Ron Blake and Steve Wilson while traveling Europe, South America, Asia and Australia as a guest clinician and performer. She graduated with her Master’s degree in 2014, and now resides in Harlem’s historic Sugar Hill neighborhood, making regular appearances at top NYC venues including Dizzy’s Club Coca Cola, The Blue Note and Smoke Jazz Club.