Blake Meister has performed and/or recorded with a diverse group of renowned musicians that includes Marc Copland, Larry Willis, David Kikoski, Benito Gonzalez, Warren Wolf, Ahn Sook Sun, Buddy Wachter, Paul Bollenback, Marin Alsop, Jamie Laredo, Eddie Henderson, Jeremy Pelt, Alex Norris, Jack DeJohnette, Ralph Peterson, Nasheet Waits, Tim Warfield and Gary Thomas, among others. He was a finalist in the 2014 Bass Europe competition and a semi-finalist in the 2015 International Society of Bassists competition. He has also received several awards and grants, including the 2015 Individual Artist Award for performance and the 2012 award for composition from the Maryland State Arts Council for his debut album, *Septagon*, which features Gary Thomas, Paul Bollenback, Marc Copland and Ralph Peterson. Released on the *Inner Circle* music label, *Septagon* was named *Album of the Year* by both CapitalBop and the Washington D.C. City Paper. Meister is currently a bassist for the American Studio Orchestra, a multi-media, cross-genre ensemble, and has been a member of several traditional orchestras in the Mid-Atlantic area. As an educator, he serves on the faculty of the Peabody Conservatory of Music of the Johns Hopkins University, teaching jazz strings, piano and improvisation.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Meister began on electric bass, later honing his skills on the double bass in college. A member of the first full class to matriculate in Peabody’s jazz studies department, Meister attracted attention as a student, receiving both the *Alice and Leary Taylor* and *Richard Franko Goldman* awards in performance, as well as multiple career development grants. He went on to earn a master’s degree in orchestral studies at Catholic University’s Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, under a full-tuition scholarship.

Known for his uncanny facility and distinct approach to improvisation, Meister is quickly garnering recognition among musicians and critics alike. As well as on *Septagon*, Meister can be heard as a sideman on various recordings and performs regularly with many different ensembles.