**LORI BELL**

**Biography**

An award winning flutist of admirable depth and broad musical sympathies whose recordings and live performances over the years have set new and higher standards in contemporary jazz and classical music, Lori Bell paid heartfelt tribute to her family and birthplace on her critically acclaimed 2016 album *Brooklyn Dreaming*.

A longtime resident and innovative cultural presence in San Diego, Lori paid special homage to her parents whose musical passions and talents gave rise to her own. Her father was a big band lead trumpet player in NYC for over 30 years and her mother played the accordion with a great ear for both jazz and classical music. Growing up, she was influenced by the traditional music of her Jewish culture and a wide range of musical legends from violinist Jascha Heifetz, jazz singer Sarah Vaughan, and guitarist Wes Montgomery.

*Brooklyn Dreaming,* Lori’s ninth solo album, was an across the board critical smash, earning four star ratings from Jazz Journal, Jazz Times and the Los Angeles Times (four and a half stars) and Downbeat, which chose it as one of their “Top CD’s of 2016.” Huffington Post also chose Brooklyn Dreaming for their Best of 2016 List. Bill Milkowski wrote in the March 2016 issue of Downbeat: “Bell flaunts prodigious chops on both C flute and alto flute, though her pen might be mightier than her sword. Her originals all reveal a wide harmonic palette, a sophisticated rhythmic sensibility and a refined sense of dynamics, along with an urge to swing.” Veteran jazz critic Scott Yanow chose it as one of his Top 25 Best CD’s of 2016.

*Brooklyn Dreaming* also earned Lori her third honor from the Global Music Awards, for Outstanding Achievement for album and composition. In 2011, she received the competition’s Award of Excellence for her depth of playing, composing and arranging for her self-titled debut album Lori Bell. She followed that in 2014 with the Gold Medal Award for her composition “Une Chanson Pour Claude” from her album Night Soliloquy. A showcase for musical gems and unique voices, the Global Music Awards is a top tier music competition that honors talented musicians around the world.

Prior to releasing her solo debut album *Lori Bell* in 2002, the flutist recorded three previous works as part of different group settings, including *Love Will Win* (featuring pianist Dave Mackay and bassist Andy Simpkins), *Take Me To Brazil* and *Interplay* (featuring Mackay and guitarist/vocalist Ron Satterfield. Her discography includes *Interplay Live at the New York Grill*, the Lori Bell Trio date *Higher Standards* and *The Music of Djavan* (featuring pianist Tamir Handelman). Lori and Ron Satterfield are currently recording a duo album called *blue(s)* set for release later in 2017.

In 2013 and 2014, Lori was Artist in Residence at the La Jolla Community Center, where she produced concerts, performed, composed and arranged music for Fourth Friday Jazz Series. Throughout her illustrious, multi-faceted career, she has performed at festivals and premiere venues throughout the U.S. including Smoke (NYC), The Blue Note (NYC), Jazz Bakery (L.A.), Catalina Jazz Club (L.A.), Vitello’s (L.A.), Elario’s (S.D.), Croce’s (S.D.), Jazz Summit 2 (L.A.), Gene Harris Jazz Festival (Boise, ID), Nome Music Festival (Alaksa), Jazz in the Pines Festival (Idyllwild, CA).

Lori also has toured in Asia, including Singapore and Hong Kong. She has also performed in high profile ensemble settings at The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, SOKA Performing Arts Center in Orange County, CA, The Wadsworth Theatre at UCLA, and most recently, on a project of jazz arrangements and classical compositions for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Music Library. She has performed three times at the Gala for the National Flute Association, most recently in 2016.

In addition to her global renown as a performer and recording artist, Lori is a respected force in music education. She is currently on the faculty as an Instructor of Flute and studio teacher at San Diego State University and over the years, has privately taught hundreds of students of all ages in flute, piano (her secondary instrument), theory, composition and arranging at her studio in San Diego. In early 2017, she taught master classes at the New York Flute Club at Columbia University. In the Fall of 2017, she will return to NYC to conduct master classes at Mannes School of Music, a conservatory in The New School university.

While branding herself as an artist and performer who plays everything “from Bach to Bebop,” Lori Bell’s musical muse extends even beyond those worlds. A musical chameleon by nature, she is continuously evolving and committed to pursuing her musical passions wherever they lead her.