

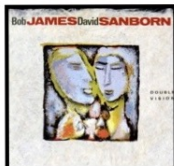
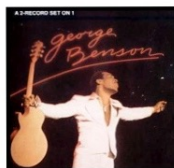


TIGRESS

Hot Sax, Cool Jazz!

"For those of you who appreciate people who play their butts off, Sonya Jason smashes all hot-sax-diva stereotypes with her sophisticated repertoire and dignified presentation."

(BUZZ Magazine, the Talk of Los Angeles)



Saxophonist Sonya Jason plays passionate instrumentals with memorable melodies, contemporary grooves and harmonic depth. Her TIGRESS band celebrates the innovative jazz fusion artists of the '70s and '80s, performing the music of David Sanborn, Spyro Gyra, Yellowjackets, Grover Washington Jr., Chuck Mangione, George Benson, Jeff Lorber, Gato Barbieri, Michael Brecker, Dave Grusin, The Crusaders, Herbie Hancock, Weather Report and more.

WWW.SAXTIGRESS.COM

Contact: Sonya Jason Booking@SaxTigress.com 650-728-8002

TIGRESS BAND BIOS

"Sonya Jason is an explosive, technically flash alto/soprano saxophonist. Her band is bolstered by musicians that aren't afraid to step up the intensity. The result is some fiery, impassioned sax wailing and some thunderous ensemble arrangements."

-- GAVIN Report (San Francisco-based radio industry trade publication)

"Her aggressive but not harsh wailing, her musical intelligence and her innate sense of a song's ebb-and-flow draws some of the best talent in town to accompany her."

-- John Burnes, The Argonaut, Marina Del Rey CA



Sonya Jason



Saxophonist Sonya Jason was born in Nebraska and went on to graduate *summa cum laude* from acclaimed Berklee College of Music in Boston. Winner of ASCAP's Popular Music Award in Composition, she has released three CD's as solo artist and contributed her saxophone sound to more than three dozen additional recordings. Sonya has led her own bands in thousands of live performances. Playing for the King of Thailand was just one of more than 60 music festival appearances around the world. She's performed or recorded with the Yellowjacket's bassist Jimmy Haslip, smooth jazz guitarist Grant Geissman, funky Brothers Johnson, and big band trumpeter Ray Anthony, to name a few. Sonya reveals, *"Music is my gift, the craft that I have honed all my life. It is my contribution to the world."*

Allen Leong



Keyboardist Allen Leong was born in Glendora CA and raised in Honolulu. He attended the University of Hawaii and played in many jazz and pop ensembles, sometimes with visiting luminaries like Bobby Hutcherson, Ernie Watts, Ronnie Cuber and Jon Faddis when he was lucky, and sometimes with local legends like Don Ho and Brother Noland when he was pragmatic. In 1994, he decided he had had enough of sunny, predictable weather and moved to the Bay Area, where he's had the opportunity to play in many R&B bands and wear more sweaters. His musical tastes are varied, but he tries to play as many jazz gigs as his income allows and unsuspecting audiences will tolerate.

Rob Rhodes



Drummer Rob Rhodes was born in Oakland and has performed in the San Francisco Bay Area for over 20 years. He studied at the College of Alameda and San Francisco State University learning to play various musical styles including Rock, Heavy Metal, Jazz, Funk, Latin, and Blues. In the 1990s, Rob performed with Ledisi's Anibade group playing a jazz and hip-hop influenced kind of soul. Over the years, many other artists have benefitted from his solid and sensitive groove including guitarists Joyce Cooling, Ray Obiedo and Terrence Brewer, singers Mary Wilson, Tony Lindsay (from Santana), Denise Pierre, Jenna Mammaia, Faye Carol, Fred Ross and Pamela Rose, keyboardist Ed Kelly, as well as saxophonists Sonya Jason and Robert Stewart.

Ken Harrill



Guitarist Ken Harrill moved from Kansas City to the SF Bay Area with his family at age eleven. He studied at Dick Grove School of Music in Los Angeles, then returned to make San Jose his home. In 1981, he put together his own fusion band, "The Ken Harrill Group," inspired by George Benson, Larry Carlton and Jeff Lorber. He also began teaching guitar students and doing studio work. His sound can be heard on movie soundtracks, CDs, TV shows, and computer games. Over the years, Ken has freelanced with bands of many styles, performing with Narada Michael Walden, Angela Bofill, Patti Austin, Neil Young, Booker T, Vince Neil (Motley Crue), Clarence Clemens, and others. Ken advises, *"Don't play the way you think people want you to play. Be true to yourself. Just have a good time and play."*

Aaron Germain



Bassist Aaron Germain has spent over 20 years as a busy hired gun bass player, traveling the world and learning from the masters. Growing up in Massachusetts, he cut his teeth playing upright and electric bass in bands ranging from jazz, blues, and funk to reggae and Senegalese mbalax. From the beginning he learned to be picky about quality, but not genre. Moving to the San Francisco Bay Area in 2000, he entered the world of salsa and Afro-Cuban music, Brazilian forro music, Caribbean steel pan music and found himself accompanying Indian kathak dancers, veteran calypso singers from Trinidad, or navigating through dense, odd-meter jazz. Aaron has performed with Yusaf Lateef, Stanley Jordon, Andy Narell, Michael Wolff, and Bonnie Raitt, to name a few.

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