

Zuri Alexander in Concert
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Sunday, October 22, 2023

Zuri Alexander, Jazz Vocalist
Hiro Morozumi, Piano
Jeff Littleton, Bass
Mark Thornton, Drums
Nora Paradiso, Vocalist

NORA'S SET

Bésame mucho by Consuelo Velázquez
Lágrimas negras by Miguel Matamoros
La flor de la canela by Chabuca Granda

ZURI'S SET

A Night in Tunisia by Dizzy Gillespie
That's All by Alan Brandt and Bob Haymes
Gentle Rain by Matt Dubey and Luiz Bonfá
I Want to Be Happy by Irving Caesar and Vincent Youmans
Autumn Leaves by Johnny Mercer
One Note Samba by Mendonça and Antonio Carlos Jobim
Lush Life by Billy Strayhorn
Route 66 by Bobby Troup
April in Paris by E Y Harburg and Vernon Duke
Lullaby of Birdland by George David Weiss and George Shearing
Come Sunday by Duke Ellington

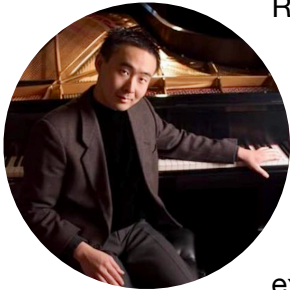
ABOUT THE MUSICIANS



Zuri Alexander
Jazz Vocalist

Zuri Alexander holds a B.A. in Classical Music with studies in Voice and Piano from Rutgers University, an M.A. in Vocal Jazz Performance from New York University, and an M.F.A. in Acting from Rutgers University - Mason Gross School of the Arts. Coming from a musical household, she studied Piano, Flute, Violin and Voice. She has been teaching Piano and composing music since she was 13 years old. She has taught Piano and Voice at The Harlem Boys Choir School in New York, The Morristown Neighborhood House in New Jersey and currently teaches in the Los Angeles area.

Zuri toured in Spain for two years as a Jazz Singer performing with the Joe Beck Big Band, The Malik Yaqub Trio and The Kelley Quartet. While in Spain, she formed a Spanish gospel choir for La Iglesia Usera, taught Piano and gave Voice Masterclasses in Madrid. Other music performances include The Alvin Ailey Revelations Chorus (Alto), Dreamgirls (Michelle) and The New England Lyric Operetta Company (Soprano). (SAG/AFTRA, AEA)



Raised in Japan, a society that often emphasizes conformity, **Hiro**

Morozumi discovered a sanctuary in the freedom and boundless creativity that jazz offers. Jazz, an American art form, allows you to be unapologetically yourself, to express your unique voice, and to create without boundaries. For Hiro, jazz

was more than just music; it was a lifeline, a means to find their true self.

Growing up, Hiro faced the challenges of bullying and the pressures to conform. As a computer nerd (and a metal head) who learned to stay silent out of fear, so much of his potential lay dormant. But then, jazz entered his life like a revelation. It was as if he had found his true element, like a fish discovering water.

Today, Hiro has the privilege of playing jazz every day, connecting with people from all corners of the globe, and enriching lives through music. Hiro is deeply involved with the renowned Los Angeles-based jazz venue, The World Stage, where he and fellow creative souls share their passion through captivating performances, jam sessions, and education. Come join us at The Stage some time, the profound richness and transformative power of jazz might just change your life!



Mark Thornton is a seasoned jazz drummer who has played for Barbara Morrison.



Jeff Littleton is an LA-based bassist whose legacy establishes him as a central figure in the storied history of jazz, having toured, performed and recorded with a "who's who" of legendary artists including Herbie Hancock, Stanley Turrentine, Freddie Hubbard,

Pharaoh Sanders, Bobby Hutcherson, Billy Higgins, Charles Lloyd, Harold Land, Eddie Harris, Willie Bobo, Hank Crawford and countless others. Jeff has also been featured in film soundtracks like "Afterglow," written by Mark Isham, as well as the Nancy Wilson television show "Red, Hot & Cool."



Nora Paradiso is SAG-AFTRA and can be seen in various Television shows, Films, National Commercials, Musicals, and Theatrical Productions. These Productions are in English and Spanish. She's a native Spanish speaker and holds a Master's Degree in Romance Linguistics. A

favorite Production of hers is "All My Love, Marilyn". She produced and co-wrote this musical with the famous Bob Garrett. She starred as Marilyn Monroe. Impresario James A. Doolittle considered taking this show to Broadway prior to his passing in 1997. She has published songs and is a member of ASCAP. Her songs play in radio stations throughout Europe. Known for her deep rich smooth-as-silk voice, Nora performs at various venues in Los Angeles. She loves to sing boleros, tangos, Latin Jazz, Afro-Cuban classics, bossa novas and standards.

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A Special Thank You to:

Ensemble Studio Theatre/LA

Tracey Leigh

Gabriel Rosemond

Troy Loftin

Margaret Kelley

The World Stage