



## About Larry Steen

“A giant of the not-too-distant future” declared the distinguished jazz critic Leonard Feather of bassist/composer/producer Larry Steen. In 1988, Steen won the International Society of Bassists’ Jazz Competition after completing a Bachelor of Music degree (Magna Cum Laude) in Studio Music and Jazz from the University of Miami in Florida and attending the world renowned Berklee College of Music in Boston. Since then, he has received a Master of Fine Arts degree in Jazz and African-American Music Performance from the California Institute of the Arts (CALARTS) and has performed live and in the studio with artists that include Ella Fitzgerald, Mel Torme, Dave Weckl, Eric Marienthal, Bob Sheppard, Mose Allison, Billy Eckstine, Bennie Maupin, Billy Childs, Rosemary Clooney, Louis Bellson, Jimmy Buffet and others.

In addition, Steen won an Honorable Mention in the 2001 Jazz Composers Alliance’ Julius Hemphill Composition Awards and has performed at such prestigious music festivals as the Montreux, North Sea and Playboy Jazz Festivals, as well as the San Jose Jazz Fest. Aside from leading the ensemble, Steen has taught part-time at the Musician’s Institute (MI) in Hollywood, CA, privately and as a clinician. He also freelances in a variety of musical genres both live and in the studio for film, television, radio and CDs.

## THE LARRY STEEN WORLD JAZZ ENSEMBLE

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### Concerts & Clinics

An explosive fusion of jazz with authentic Middle Eastern, Balkan, West African, Celtic, Caribbean, South American, funk/R&B and classical influences



## About The Larry Steen World Jazz Ensemble

The Larry Steen World Jazz Ensemble fuses Middle Eastern, Balkan, West African, Celtic, Caribbean and South American music concepts with a harmonic complexity not usually associated with music from these regions. With a deep respect for the various cultures throughout the world and with the intention of preserving each culture's essence, they carefully emulate rhythms and textures as accurately as possible while injecting their own jazz, classical and funk/R&B influences.

This melding of styles can be seen in their use of such exotic instruments as the oud (fretless lute), bouzouki (fretted lute), duduk (double reed, wind instrument), kawala (reed flute), cavaqhino (similar to ukulele), Uilleann pipes (Scottish bagpipe) and a multitude of percussion instruments along with standard Western instruments. The result is a rich melange of "world jazz" that is ethnically authentic yet interpreted and composed in an entirely new way.

The ensemble has recorded two ASCAP award winning CDs, "First Move" and "View From Afar." Jimmy Haslip (of the Yellowjackets) was the executive producer of "First Move" which features jazz luminaries Ernie Watts, Dave Weckl and Jeff Beal. The critically acclaimed "View From Afar" features Ernie Watts, Robben Ford and Russell Ferrante (of the Yellowjackets).



## Clinics

Their presentation is friendly, enjoyable, and entertaining for audiences of all ages and music skill levels. The content can be tailored for any specific audience.



Possible topics:

- ◆ Origins and background of ethnic rhythms, instruments and textures utilized by the ensemble
- ◆ Concepts and considerations in composition and arrangement of the ensemble's repertoire
  - ◆ Staying true to an ethnic genre and jazz simultaneously
  - ◆ Non-western scales and their relationship to Western harmony
  - ◆ Limitations of ethnic instruments in jazz and Western instruments in world styles
- ◆ Recording and production considerations in world jazz
- ◆ Overcoming obstacles in airplay, marketing and exposure of world jazz
- ◆ Demonstrations of individual instruments which include emulations and techniques of ethnic instruments on Western instruments. (For full ensemble clinics)

## Contact Info

For more information on **The Larry Steen World Jazz Ensemble** which includes performance dates, information on individual ensemble members, a downloadable press kit, as well as "streaming" audio and video, go to their website at **LarrySteenMusic.com**.

For clinics, contact:

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