



GARY LOUIE, saxophonist

Biography 2014-2015

Internationally recognized as one of the leading saxophone virtuosos of our time, **GARY LOUIE** possesses a lively interpretive imagination coupled with a refreshingly understated artistry and a warm, supple tone, qualities that have earned him consistent praise from audiences and critics alike.

Gary Louie's career has long been distinguished by his successful efforts to break boundaries and integrate the saxophone and its repertoire into the mainstream of classical music life, both here and abroad. He has appeared as soloist with Hugh Wolff and the National Symphony Orchestra at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, under the batons of Daniel Hege, David Lockington, Juanjo Mena and Yan Pascal Tortelier, in performances of Milhaud's *La création du monde*, Debussy's *Rhapsody for Saxophone and Orchestra* and Glazunov's *Concerto for Saxophone and Orchestra*.

In recital, Gary Louie has been presented by prestigious institutions from coast to coast: New York City's Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' Alice Tully Hall and The Frick Collection; California's La Jolla Chamber Music Society; Boston's Jordan Hall; The University of Massachusetts at Amherst, The Philadelphia Museum of Art; The Cleveland Museum of Art; The Phillips Collection and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. International performances have been given in Paris at L'Opera Comique, in Rome at the Villa Medici, in Hong Kong, throughout Spain and with Vladimir Lande and the St. Petersburg Symphony and Germany's Philharmonisches Orchester Augsburg, under the baton of Peter Leonard.

In 2009, Gary Louie released his first solo saxophone with orchestra CD. Featuring the St. Petersburg (Russia) Symphony conducted by Vladimir Lande, the album includes Glazunov's *Concerto for Saxophone and Orchestra*, Frank Martin's *Ballade for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra*, *Carmen Fantasy* (arranged by Mr. Louie) and Rachmaninoff's *Vocalise*. This season's highlights include recording Michael Hersch's *of ages manifest*, opening a saxophone festival in St. Petersburg, Russia celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Adolphe Sax and a week as artist in residence at the William and Mary College.

An avid supporter and interpreter of contemporary music, Gary Louie is actively involved in the commissioning and performing of new scores for the saxophone. He has premiered new works by the distinguished American composers William Albright, John Harbison, Michael Hersch, Lori Laitman, John Anthony Lennon and Jonathon Leshnoff to name a few.

GARY LOUIE, Biography pg. 2

Gary Louie's career was launched in 1986, when he won the coveted Pro Musicis International Sponsorship Award. In 1988 he was selected as a "Young Artist to Watch" by *Musical America*. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and grants, including having been chosen by the United States Information Service for its "Arts America" program and a National Endowment for the Arts Solo Recitalist Grant. Mr. Louie has also served on the National Screening Committee for the Fulbright Awards.

Gary Louie began serious studies on the saxophone with George Etheridge in Washington, DC, and went on to study at the University of Michigan with the legendary saxophonist/teacher, Donald Sinta. He currently serves as Professor of Saxophone at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. He lives in Severna Park, Maryland with his wife, pianist Kirsten Taylor, where in their spare time they enjoy sailing and hiking with their sons, Warren and James.

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CONCERTO REPERTOIRE 2014 - 15

Creston, Paul
Concerto for Alto saxophone and orchestra

Dahl, Ingolf
Concerto for Alto saxophone and orchestral winds

Glazounov, A.
Concerto for Alto saxophone and string orchestra

Higdon, Jennifer
Concerto for Soprano saxophone and orchestra
[2 (2nd also picc), 1 (also Eng. hn), 2, 2, 2 hn, 2 tpt
1 perc, strings]

Ibert, Jacques
Concertino da Camera for Alto Saxophone and 11 players
[1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1 and strings]

Lennon, John A.
Concerto for Alto saxophone and orchestra

Torke, Michael
Concerto for Soprano saxophone and chamber orchestra

Solo works with orchestra

Bizet/Louie
Carmen Fantasy for Alto saxophone and orchestra
[2, 2, 2, 2, 4 hn., 2 tr., 2 trmb., 2 perc., hp., strings]

Debussy, C.
Rhapsody for Alto saxophone and orchestra

Martin, Frank
Ballade for Alto saxophone and orchestra
[pf., perc., strings]

Milhaud, Darius
Scaramouche for Alto saxophone and orchestra

Villas-Lobos, H.
Fantasia for Soprano saxophone and orchestra
(3 hn., strings)

GARY LOUIE, saxophonist
CD RELEASES

CLASSIC SAXOPHONE CONCERTOS

Concerto in E-flat (Glazunov)
Carmen Fantasy (Bizet/Louie/Baylock)
Vocalise (Rachmaninoff)
Ballade (Martin)
Traumerei (Schumann/Hudson)
Lande/St. Petersburg State Academic Orchestra
KLEOS CLASSICS CD: KL5150

PASTORALE, ROMANTIC MUSIC FOR SAXOPHONE & PIANO

Siete canciones populares Españolas (de Falla)
Four Romantic Pieces, Op. 75 (Dvorak)
Pastorale (Stravinsky)
Sonata, Op. 167 (Saint-Saens)
Caprice Viennois (Kreisler)
Pièce en forme de habanera (Ravel)
Scaramouche (Milhaud)
Kirsten Taylor, piano
Newport Classic CD: 85563

JACQUES IBERT - OEUVRES VARIEES

Concertino da Camera
R.A.Clark/Manhattan Chamber Orchestra
Newport Classic CD: 85598

MUSIC OF COWELL, PERSICHETTI, AND MacDOWELL

Air and Scherzo (Cowell)
R.A.Clark/Manhattan Chamber Orchestra
Newport Classic CD: 7282-2

FOR THE FRIENDS OF ALEC WILDER

Suite No.2 for Tenor Saxophone & Strings
R.A.Clark/Manhattan Chamber Orchestra
Newport Classic CD: 85570

GARY LOUIE, saxophonist
PRESS

"Seldom do you hear a performer who does everything technically and stylistically to spectacular effect, making a sonic statement that propels one into the music itself. That's what Gary Louie did when he joined the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra for Glazunov's Alto Saxophone Concerto and Milhaud's Scaramouche. His legato, jet-speed articulation and multidimensional color-scape stunned listeners into disbelief."

THE WASHINGTON POST

"The repertoire provides Gary Louie with many opportunities to explore the expressive range of the instrument he plays so superbly. Only two of the five pieces were written specifically for saxophone. The others are arrangements that couldn't sound more natural or apt in Louie's rapt performances. Louie leaves the listener unaware of any obstacle."

GRAMOPHONE

"Louie boasts skillful phrasing, a wide dynamic range, admirable control in all registers, nimble technique, and the right touch of vibrato. Overall, his sound meshes very well with strings, and musicians and non-musicians alike should find his interpretations convincing."

AMERICAN RECORD GUIDE

"Gary Louie, the noted saxophonist with the disarmingly understated virtuosity, had the spotlight in Milhaud's saucy Scaramouche. With remarkable dexterity and a finely polished tone, Louie also excelled as soloist in Glazunov's Saxophone Concerto."

THE BALTIMORE SUN

"Another departure from the concert norm was the solo appearance of saxophonist Gary Louie, a master of the instrument with a sweet tone and fluid technique that always revealed the expressive innards of the music at hand."

THE PLAIN DEALER (Cleveland)

"Louie plays his instrument with a high, sweet, tremulous, near-vocal quality that has absolutely nothing to do with the squalling, visceral use of the sax we find in much American jazz. His recital at the Terrace Theater was an inspired artistic event."

THE WASHINGTON POST

"Although Venzago was aiming for a crisper, Stravinsky-like style [Milhaud La Création du Monde], there still was a nice bite to the snappier moments and a good deal of sultry inference elsewhere. Gary Louie was the superb soloist on alto sax."

THE BALTIMORE SUN

"Gary Louie is a saxophonist with a fluent, supple technique and a lively interpretive imagination. Phrases were shaped carefully and compellingly, with a beautifully regulated vibrato and a firm command of the instrument's coloristic range."

THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Without a doubt, Louie is an astonishing player, one who draws a wealth of varied tone colors and shadings from his alto saxophone much the way Richard Stoltzman and Heinz Holliger do on clarinet and oboe."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

"Gary Louie is a top-class man in his trade, which is playing classical music on the alto saxophone. That was what was to be demonstrated by the recital he gave at Jordan Hall, and demonstrated it was."

THE BOSTON GLOBE

The American soloist Gary Louie was highly convincing and a real highlight of the evening. He presented the saxophone as a breathtaking, restless and a little bit demonic instrument as well as - in the second movement - a blooming Bel Canto voice. Louie got the utmost out of the 20-minute Creston concerto, and earned a large ovation."

AUGSBURGER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG