

Bijan Taghavi

Pianist, Composer, Educator

Long Bio (420 Words):

Bijan Taghavi is a Persian-American pianist, composer, and educator currently based in New York who is "able to adapt to any musical setting" (Brett Ecklund, KX 93.5 FM Jazz Quest Radio). Well-versed in many styles, Bijan has performed Coltrane's *A Love Supreme* with jazz saxophonist **Joe Lovano**, Latin jazz with Grammy artist **Nestor Torres**, and with **Metropolitan Opera** Singer **Eric Jordan**.

Bijan is also a sought-after composer and arranger, recently having written works for studio orchestra, big band, string quartet, and small jazz ensembles, including performing his original music at the **John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts** a part of the **Betty Carter Jazz Residency**.

Bijan leads his own group, the **Bijan Taghavi Trio**. Applauded for their "interactive and dynamic playing", they "ooze with talent, creative energy, and musicianship in everything they play" (George Trsak, Bop Stop Studios). They perform a mixture of Bijan's original compositions and the music of Great American Songbook and jazz composers, "carrying on the tradition, ensuring that jazz stays alive and thrives" (Sherry Williams, Jazz at the Merc).

Bijan's Trio has performed at many venues in California, including: **Alva's Showroom** in San Pedro, **Jazz at the Merc** in Temecula, **E Spot Lounge** in Studio City, **Birdland Jazzista Social Club** in Oakland, and a weekly residency at **Port Corona Del Mar**. Recently the Trio toured Japan in December 2018, including performances at **Urayasu Concert Hall** in **Chiba**, **Live House ENN** in **Sendai**, **Live House ROXX** in **Aamori**, and **Nogata Kumin Hall** in **Tokyo**.

Alongside a busy performing career, Bijan is very involved as an educator for **JazzPianoSchool.com**. Bijan works directly with their students and produces instructional videos for their **Artist Highlight** and **Gig Analysis** series'. A published author, he has also written over twenty articles for JPS covering a range of topics in the field of jazz piano.

Growing up in Laguna Niguel, California, Bijan was classically trained under the mentorship of **Robert Estrin**, studying the monumental works of Rachmaninoff, Liszt, Chopin, Beethoven, and Bach. As a first-prize winner of the **Young Stars of the Future Competition**, Bijan performed the Grieg Piano Concerto as a soloist with the **South Coast Symphony**.

A recipient of the **Presser Foundation Scholarship**, Bijan earned his **Bachelors of Music in Jazz Piano Performance** at **Manhattan School of Music** and has studied

with **Phil Markowitz** and **Fred Hersch**. Bijan remains active performing with various groups in NYC, recently having performed at **Jazz at Lincoln Center, Beacon Theatre, Minton's Playhouse Harlem, Apollo Theatre**, and the **55 Bar**. His website is: <http://www.BijanJazz.com>