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LISA THORSON "Lisa Thorson Quartet LIVE" Birdfeeder Music 004



The inventive Boston vocalist Lisa Thorson doesn't record nearly often enough. Her new release "Lisa Thorson Quartet LIVE" is further evidence of this, her first release in more than 10 years.

Working on a high wire, performing without a net at Boston's own Scullers Jazz Club, Thorson soars while enjoying the improvised security of long-time associates Tim Ray, piano, David Clark, bass and George Schuller, drums.

The album's seven tracks are a blend of Duke Ellington ("Mood Indigo"), Charlie Parker ("Blues for Alice"), Cole Porter ("Everything I Love"), the haunting melody and Latin-esque rhythms of "Estate" and a trio of less familiar pieces given the sophisticated Thorson touch.

The singer says her favorite qualities of this recording are the energy, the surprise and the instant exchange of ideas that she likens to a

The St. Andrew's Bach Soci

26th annual summer concert series con

Sunday, June 29, 2 p.m. - Renato Serrano

Award winning classical guitarist Rena Serrano presents an eclectic recital of guitar repertoire, including works by J.S. Bach. At Grace St. Paul's, 2331 E. Adams St., general admission, \$6 students

Sunday, July 20, 2 p.m. - Danny Seide
Viola

Celebrated violist Danny Seidenberg brings unique musicianship to our stage to begin week of performance and education in July. At Grace St. Paul's, 2331 E. Adams St., general admission, \$6 students

**Saturday, Aug. 23, 7:30 p.m. and Sun
Aug. 24, 2 p.m.**

Artifact Dance Project and Lauren Roth
Tucson Symphony Orchestra concert

"The Four Seasons" is presented by the Andrews Bach Society in company with Artifact Dance Project and TSO Concertmaster Lauren Roth to create a once in a lifetime experience, setting dance to one of the most beloved pieces in all of music.

At Stevie Eller Dance Theatre, 1713 E. University Blvd., on the University of Arizona mall west of N. Campbell Ave. Special admission for this concert, \$18 general admission, \$10 students

For additional details on the concert series contact Ben Nisbet, SABS Artistic Director
www.standrewsbach.org
520.808.212

roller coaster.

For us out in the audience, there is the sense of genuine conversation going on, of intelligent people talking about their favorite subjects.

You will never hear a “Mood Indigo” like this one, eschewing all sentiment for the 1930s, diving straight into Ray’s sleek keyboard chord changes that carry a shifting Thorson through moods of wariness, challenge, defiance and reflection.

Clark’s contribution of rainy day soulfulness buoys a modern image that keeps the rhythm section looking squarely into future’s face. Together this foursome draws out of Ellington’s composition ten minutes of thoughtfulness worthy of a gently poured ruby red wine.

Not even Thorson’s straight ahead bopping on “Blues For Alice” has a period mood. Led by Ray’s angular piano work, the piece stirs complex feelings in keeping with today’s obstreperous culture wars coated in modern media marketing.

A willing vulnerability resides in the ballads, particularly the pensive “There’s A Lull in My Life,” with Thorson drawing out the vowels to impossibly long and languorous phrases that perfectly portray the ennui of indecision. If this doesn’t touch your heart, you just haven’t lived long enough yet.

By day, Thorson has been an honored professor on the faculty of the Berklee College of Music in Boston for almost 20 years. She has performed in jazz clubs, on radio, on stage, in film and on television for over thirty five years along with touring throughout the U.S., Canada and Italy as a concert artist and jazz vocal clinician.

Find the album on CD Baby, get more details at www.lisathorson.com