



# TIGRESS

*jazz fusion of the '70s & '80s*

*"For those of you who appreciate people who play their butts off, Sonya Jason smashes all hot-sax-diva stereotypes with her sophisticated repertoire and dignified presentation."*

(BUZZ Magazine, the Talk of Los Angeles)



Saxophonist Sonya Jason's TIGRESS band celebrates the innovative jazz fusion artists of the '70s and '80s, performing the music of David Sanborn, Yellowjackets, Grover Washington Jr., Spyro Gyra, Chuck Mangione, George Benson, Miles Davis, Gato Barbieri, Michael Brecker, Dave Grusin, The Crusaders, Herbie Hancock, Weather Report and more.

**[WWW.SAXTIGRESS.COM](http://WWW.SAXTIGRESS.COM)**

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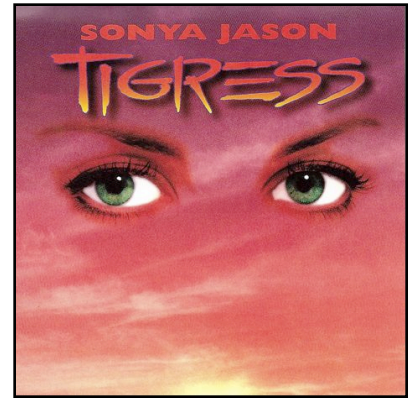
# TIGRESS BAND BIOS

*"Sonya Jason is an explosive, technically flash alto/soprano saxophonist. Her band is bolstered by musicians that aren't afraid to step up the intensity. The result is some fiery, impassioned sax wailing and some thunderous ensemble arrangements."*

-- GAVIN Report (San Francisco-based radio industry trade publication)

*"Her aggressive but not harsh wailing, her musical intelligence and her innate sense of a song's ebb-and-flow draws some of the best talent in town to accompany her."*

-- John Burnes, The Argonaut, Marina Del Rey CA



## Sonya Jason



Saxophonist Sonya Jason was born in Nebraska and went on to graduate *summa cum laude* from acclaimed Berklee College of Music in Boston. Winner of ASCAP's Popular Music Award in Composition, she has released three CD's as solo artist and contributed her saxophone sound to more than three dozen additional recordings. Sonya has led her own bands in thousands of live performances. Playing for the King of Thailand was just one of more than 50 music festival appearances around the world. She's performed or recorded with the Yellowjacket's bassist Jimmy Haslip, smooth jazz guitarist Grant Geissman, funky Brothers Johnson, and big band trumpeter Ray Anthony, to name a few. Sonya reveals, *"Music is my gift, the craft that I have honed all my life. It is my contribution to the world."*

## Frank Martin



Keyboardist Frank Martin grew up in Oakland where he studied the music of Dave Brubeck, Miles Davis and Bill Evans during his early piano lessons. In the years that followed, he has become in demand as a keyboardist/ musical director for touring and local acts; a producer/ arranger for recording projects in his San Rafael studio; and as an educator/ clinician at UC Berkeley and the Jazzschool. Frank has amassed an impressive track record working with world-class performers in a diverse array of musical styles. He has performed and/ or recorded with Sting, Stevie Wonder, Elton John, Madonna, Herbie Hancock, Dizzy Gillespie, Andrea Bocelli and many more. Frank observes, *"The great performers always share of themselves and bring something personal to the song."*

## Tommy Bradford, Jr.



Drummer Tommy Bradford, Jr. was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. His earliest experience playing drums was during church services. Throughout his many years of performing as a full time professional musician, Tommy has developed his distinctive soulful and funky groove, stylistic versatility and artistic soloing ability. He has toured and/or recorded with pop stars Santana and Whitney Houston, as well as rock guitarist Neal Schon, Journey's keyboardist/composer Jonathan Cain, Oakland's soul/ R&B group Tony! Toni! Tone!, smooth jazz band the Braxton Brothers, R&B/ jazz vocalist Ledisi, and many others. He has also appeared on BET On Jazz, performed with the American Idol Christmas Tour and played on several movie sound track recordings.

## Sam Bevan



Bassist Sam Bevan was born in Oakland and has established himself as one of the most versatile and creative musicians in the San Francisco Bay Area. He is able to canvas a large musical landscape where jazz, funk, r&b, folk, Afro-Cuban, Afro-Venezuelan and West African disciplines joyously intermingle. His study of the electric and acoustic bass followed periods playing jazz and classical piano, singing professionally (he still sings when he solos on bass) and getting a BA in French. He has performed with Santana's timbalero Karl Perrazo, folk/world musician Joe Craven, the hard bop Monk's Music Trio, bluegrass mandolinist David Grisman and many more. Sam performs with the composition in mind, but admits, *"I listen for moments to push the music into new territory."*

## Peter Fujii



Guitarist Peter Fujii was born in Detroit and grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area where he eagerly absorbed the rich cultural diversity. A self-taught musician, his earliest influences were B.B. King, Jimi Hendrix, Wes Montgomery and Sly Stone; then later he discovered Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Herbie Hancock, and Wayne Shorter. Peter has led his own jazz fusion band and recorded two CD's as solo artist. In addition, he has played with jazz saxophonist Pharaoh Sanders, West African drummer Babatunde Olatunji, rock singer Chris Isaak, Sly & the Family Stone bassist Rustee Allen, and on recordings produced by Quincy Jones and Thomas Dolby, just to name a few. Peter hopes to bring people together through music, which he sees as *"a language of the soul."*

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