



PRESS RELEASE



LYNNE ARRIALE TRIO *Arise*

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With the release of her new recording, *ARISE*, in April 2003, Lynne Arriale is poised to take her place among the best-selling and most compelling pianists of her generation. Arriale and her trio immersed themselves in the studio after a triumphant international tour and emerged with an album of deep conviction that speaks poignantly to our times.

ARISE follows the trio's sensational 2002 release, *INSPIRATION*, which hit number one on U.S. Jazz radio charts and, in Germany, was voted "Best Jazz CD of 2002."

Bio:

Lynne Arriale is sparking the imaginations and stealing the hearts of critics and audiences around the world. "It's always thrilling when a new star shines in the jazz firmament," writes BBC Music Magazine's Ian Carr. "[Her] piano persona puts her on the short list of today's noteworthy jazz keyboardists," declares the Chicago Reader. "...One of the most intellectual, introspective and insightful swingers on the current scene. She brings a flawless touch, an impeccable sense of complex rhythms and a harmonic curiosity to everything she attempts," reports JazzTimes.

The Lynne Arriale Trio routinely draws standing ovations, as it did at the Kennedy Center's Mary Lou Williams "Women in Jazz" Festival (2002). The Washington Post praised the trio's "...crisscrossing genre lines with impunity, elegantly juxtaposing and harmonically

refreshing the music of Bernstein, Ellington, Lennon/McCartney, Bacharach and Monk."

Beginning her musical studies at age 4, Arriale went on to earn a master's degree in classical composition. In her 20s, she discovered improvisation and turned to jazz, soon developing her own sound. "My classical years had a great influence on me," explains Arriale, "Teachers used to tell me: 'You have to sing this line.'...It took me years to teach my fingers how to sing." But sing they do, and beautifully so. In a 2002 profile, Billboard called Arriale one of "Jazz's most valuable young players."

And DownBeat hailed her as "a powerhouse...a singular voice as a pianist and as a leader."

Raised by adoptive parents, Arriale learned later in life that her birth mother had been a professional jazz singer. Lynne states, "It was a revelation. I'd always wondered

where my passion for melody and improvisation had come from." Perhaps her background also contributes to the distinctly vocal quality of her style, cultivated through singing the melody when composing and practicing in order to maintain "a strong heart connection."

Often compared to the great trio traditions of



Ahmad Jamal, Bill Evans and Keith Jarrett, Arriale is distinguished from her peers by her exclusive devotion to playing in the trio format. "[Her trio] has attained a level of communication paramount to all great threesomes," writes JAZZIZ. Grammy award-winning jazz critic Bob Blumenthal declares that Arriale, along with bassist Jay Anderson and drummer Steve Davis play with "a shared metabolism [as] one of the most empathetic threesomes in jazz."

"Steve and I have been playing together for over 10 years," explains Arriale. Davis, who has more than 70 recordings to his credit, has also played and recorded with David Liebman, Bill Evans and Richie Bierach, among others. "Steve's broad experience has shaped his vision of music and given him great flexibility. The many different grooves he's developed have helped create our signature sound," explains Arriale. Bassist, composer Jay Anderson has also been a regular member in the bands of Toots Thielman, Michael Franks and Joe Sample, to name a few, and has won numerous awards for both jazz and classical performance. "Jay's playing is so melodic. Sometimes when he plays a solo, I wish I could stop playing and just listen," says Arriale.



Arriale personally challenges herself to connect with each note she plays and devotes equal passion to choosing repertoire. The selections on *ARISE* span many styles, weaving a common thread through the social consciousness of several generations. The album's title sprang from Lynne's emotional response to our uncertain times.

"I wanted to bring to mind a sense of opening, of uplift, of a challenge to stand up for things that matter, to be better, to be stronger, to facilitate change," says Arriale.

Her sentiments echo through four outstanding original tunes *Arise*, *Esperanza*, *The Fallen*, and *Upswing* which are destined to become future classics. These compelling tracks are gracefully reinforced by Lynne's emotionally sophisticated arrangements of pop favorites *Change the World*, *Lean On Me* and *Kum Ba Ya*. Rounding out the album with eclectic flare is an athletic romp through Egberto Gismonti's *Frévo* and a smoky interpretation of the rock classic, *American Woman*.



Years of perseverance have brought the trio a growing international following, now bolstered in Europe with representation by GKP Promotions. They now play to large venues, full houses and, thanks to a recent signing with the high-powered J. Chriss & Co., they are now landing headline spots at prestigious U.S. festivals, including the Spoleto Arts Festival in May of 2003.

"There's nothing more important to me than connecting with the audience," states Arriale. "That is ultimately why we play." And connect she does with muscularity, passion and poetry that reaches jazz and mainstream audiences alike. Described by *Strictly Jazz* as, "Pensive, passionate, haunting, genuine, enlightening and deeply affecting"... Lynne has achieved an obvious mastery, a warm and sophisticated style and has reached her goal ... "to sing from her heart straight to the heart of her listeners."

Press Highlites:

When the last hushed note was finally played, the applause in the room was striking. The reaction Arriale elicited was testimony to her great ability to reach people.

~ *the new york post*

In The Press Lynne Arriale's brilliant musicianship and bandstand instincts place her among the top jazz pianists of the day.

~ *New York Times*

A brilliant improviser ... the abundantly talented Arriale should take her rightful place alongside Brad Mehldau ... as one of the vital new voices on the jazz scene. She is one of jazzdom's most intensely unique voices. Brava Arriale!

~ *JAZZTIMES*

Lynne Arriale is a rarity among pianists these days ... The conservatory-trained, harmonically adept keyboardist ... has been commanding airplay recently with her trio recording *Inspiration*, which features a repertoire spanning Leonard Bernstein, Keith Jarrett, Lennon/McCartney and Thelonious Monk.

~ *Billboard*

Stunning piano work. The trio has obviously attained the level of communication paramount to all great threesomes.

~ *JAZZIZ*

Arriale holds the audience spellbound with a single-line execution of the melody, followed by a deceptively simple improvisation. After Ms. Arriale proves once again that a beautiful melody can stand alone, she adds layers while twisting and turning the lines as if reflected through a prism. This sound comes straight from the spirit.

~ *Jazz Improv*

No American pianist has made quite as strong an impression over the past five years as Arriale. (She) belongs among the poets. A truly distinctive pianist, her improvisations weave a seductive combination of lyricism and muscle. She is a consummate jazz artist.

~ *London Times*

A singular voice as a pianist and a leader ... a powerhouse. Arriale's playing is haunting, gorgeous ... a breeze of warm sophistication and accomplished pianism ... expressive passion ... intelligent interpretation.

~ *Down beat*

This is a great album! It's always thrilling when a new star shines in the jazz firmament ... Arriale has her own musical vision which informs the frequent creative surprise of her work, and there's an often magical rapport between her and trio colleagues Anderson and Davis.

~ *ian carr, bbc music magazine*

She can spin a universe of textures out of single note right hand lines; she seems to measure and weigh each gesture, much as a gifted Shakespearean actor inflects each syllable to convey a richness of thought and meaning barely conceivable to most performers.

~ *Chicago Reader*

The musicians seemed to be inventing out of a shared metabolism ... Keith Jarrett minus the angst and the sense that a good thing had been taken to wearying extremes. Then again, knowing just how much is enough may be Arriale's greatest strength.

~ *THE BOSTON GLOBE*

She's got fingers of gold.

~ *CD REVIEW*

Arriale is a profound player, who touches your heart and even reaches into your soul. What makes Arriale's playing and writing special is, in a word, honesty. There's not an artificial sounding note written or struck ... as marvelous and deeply affecting a musician as I've heard recently, not only on her instrument but in all of jazz ...

~ *ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS*

The ballad phrases she spins out are articulated with ravishing simplicity ... the seemingly nonstop abundance of Arriale's imagination, the unique way in which she employed sequential phrases to build climactic passages, the subtle but persistent swing, were all her own – distinct evidence of a major talent ...

~ *LOS ANGELES TIMES*

Lynne Arriale is a jazz player without equal. I shall never forget the magic of this trio's music. It was jazz at its purest played with such perfection that I feel such an experience comes but once in a lifetime.

~ jersey, uk

Arriale cruises on the flow of an ensemble's activity with a succinctness and drive reminiscent of Herbie Hancock with Miles Davis in the '60's.

~ the guardian, london

This is music from the synaptic intersection where brain meets heart, where body meets soul ... there's a directness, a purity, an unalloyed honesty that makes us listen and therefore 'see' anew.

~ JAZZTIMES

Though her improvisational prowess and harmonic sophistication is obvious, Arriale is very much a romantic, an instrumentalist drawn to the kind of lyricism that exerts a strong hold on the listener long after the last note has sounded. She cast several lush and haunting spells ...

~ washington post

She is on a path that has taken her into the rarified realm of the jazz elite ... a consummate improviser with a highly refined melodic sensibility. If ballads are the heart, if not always the soul of jazz, Lynne Arriale has heart. Miles and miles of heart. the san jose mercury news The trio had the large, enthusiastic audience jumping to its feet ... raging swing and ballsy, rocking blues, deeply moving solos of wonderful harmonic logic and melodic development ... the trio proceeded to play music so hot it could have been used to strip the paint from the ballroom walls. Arriale was downright brilliant!

~ the ontario spectator

Master Classes & Clinics

Teaching and mentoring aspiring musicians is very important to both Lynne and the trio. They offer master classes and clinics individually and as a group. Lynne has conducted master classes for the Monk Institute, the Montreux Jazz Festival, the IAJE Sisters in Jazz, and many others internationally. In her capacity as the Jazz Piano Resource Team Representative for the IAJE, she has adjudicated the Montreux Jazz Festival piano competition.

