

**BETH CUSTER** is a San Francisco based composer, performer, bandleader, clarinet teacher, and the proprietor of BC Records.

Beth is the founder of Clarinet Thing. She also is a founding member of the notorious silent film soundtrack purveyors the Club Foot Orchestra, 4th world ambient ensemble Trance Mission, the trip-hop duo Eighty Mile Beach, and the Latin-jazz-rock influenced Doña Luz 30 Besos. She now also leads The Beth Custer Ensemble.

Beth composes for film, television, installations and the concert stage. Recent commissions include *A Trip Down Market Street 1905/2005*, a live outdoor cinema event by Melinda Stone produced by the Exploratorium; *The Ballad of Pancho & Lucy* musical for Campo Santo Theatre; and *Bernal Heights Suite* for the Left Coast Chamber Ensemble. Recent awards include a Meet The Composer New Residency grant; two residencies at the Marin Headlands Art Center; a Phyllis Wattis Residency at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts; a Mcknight Fellowship; two San Francisco Arts Commission Individual Artist grants; a Gerbode Award; an Argosy Foundation recording grant; and an Aaron Copland Recording fund award.

*A woman for all seasons, hers is a big musical personality — versatile, adaptable, and very individual.* — John L. Walters, London Guardian

**SHELDON BROWN** Composer and woodwind multi-instrumentalist Sheldon Brown has been a fixture on the Bay Area creative music scene for over twenty years. In addition to leading his own ensemble, Sheldon Brown Group (which features his original compositions), Brown has toured internationally with Cuban pianist Omar Sosa and collaborates with many Bay Area creative musicians such as Paul McCandless (Oregon), Ben Goldberg, and Beth Custer. He is currently performing with Mitch Marcus Quintet + 13, Realistic Orchestra (led by Adam Theis), Hemispheres (Paul McCandless, Ian Dogle and Bill Douglass), Graham Connah and Oakland Opera Theatre). His compositions and playing have been featured in Clubfoot Orchestra's scores to numerous silent films and the cartoon series "The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat", which aired on CBS in 1995.

**BEN GOLDBERG** grew up in Denver, Colorado. He received his undergraduate music degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz and a Master of Arts in Composition from Mills College. He was a pupil of the eminent clarinetist Rosario Mazzeo, and studied with Steve Lacy and Joe Lovano. His group New Klezmer Trio "kicked open the door for radical experiments with Ashkenazi roots music." (San Francisco Chronicle) Their CD *Masks and Faces* was listed as one of the ten best recordings of 1992 by *Cadence* magazine, which called it "great free improvisation." The group made two more cds, *Melt Zonk Rewire* and *Short for Something* (all on Tzadik). Ben's other recordings include *The Relative Value of Things* with Kenny Wollesen (33 1/4 Records); two records by *Junk Genius* (with John Schott, Trevor Dunn, and Wollesen): *Junk Genius* (Knitting Factory Works), an examination of bebop, and *Ghost of Electricity* (Songlines), dealing with American folk music; *Light at the Crossroads* (Songlines) with Marty Ehrlich; *What Comes Before* (Tzadik), reflections on post-tonal harmonic structures with John Schott and Michael Sarin; and *the door, the hat, the chair, the fact* (Cryptogramophone), a record of compositions dedicated to Steve Lacy. Ben is also featured on the upcoming Nels Cline recording *New Monastery: a view into the*

music of Andrew Hill (Cryptogramophone). In addition to the Ben Goldberg Quintet, Ben currently performs with Carla Kihlstedt, Mark Orton, and Zeena Parkins in the group Tin Hat; in a trio that plays Monk with Scott Amendola and Devin Hoff; the Graham Connah Group; and with John Schott's Typical Orchestra. The 11-piece Ben Goldberg's Brainchild performs Ben's on-the-spot compositions. In 1993 Ben received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to present a series featuring the work of important American composers, allowing him to work with Andrew Hill and Bobby Bradford in concerts of their compositions, as well as presenting the music of Steve Lacy, Herbie Nichols, and Thelonious Monk. In 1996 the NEA funded a concert series of Ben's own music. In addition to Mr. Bradford and Mr. Hill, he has been honored to work with, among others, John Zorn, Nels Cline, Vijay Iyer, Cecil Taylor, and Roswell Rudd.

**HARVEY WAINAPEL** The 1998 All Music Guide to Jazz called saxophonist/clarinetist Harvey Wainapel 'one of the most promising and versatile players of his generation.' Harvey has performed with McCoy Tyner, Joe Lovano, Ray Charles. His heavy involvement with the music of Brazil has led to performances with masters of the genre such as Airtó Moreira, Flora Purim, Dorí Caymmi, Guingá, Jovino Santos Neto, and Manfredo Fest. He has performed in 21 countries. Wainapel's four CDs feature Kenny Barron, Larry Grenadier, Kenny Wollesen, Mike Clark, Paulo Bellinati, and the Metropole Orchestra. Joe Lovano says 'It's a pleasure to listen to Harvey's soulful interpretations!'

Originally from upstate New York, Harvey studied at Berklee College of Music for two years, during which he recorded and performed at Carnegie Hall with vibist Gary Burton. Following a two-month tour of Tunisia, Harvey settled in Europe for five years which included a year long stint with the German Radio Big Band in Frankfurt. After returning to New York, he was hired by Ray Charles for a world tour. He then moved to San Francisco and has remained a key contributor to the Bay Area jazz scene for over twenty years. Harvey has served on the faculty of Sonoma State, Stanford Jazz Workshop, California Brazil Camp, and JazzCamp West, as well as on international workshops around the globe.