

## LISA PARROTT

**Alto, baritone, soprano saxophones; clarinet, bass clarinet, flute**  
**Copyist & music notation expert; composer, arranger, transcriber, educator**

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One of the expatriate Australians who have shown they can succeed on the competitive New York music scene, Lisa Parrott has been based there for the last two decades, working with a range of prominent bands. In 2016, she won the annual **Down Beat Critics Poll** in the **Rising Star** category for **baritone saxophone**. Lisa was featured alongside her sister, bassist Nicki, at the **Tribute to Mary Lou Williams Festival** at the **Kennedy Centre**. She has also performed with such names as **Dave Brubeck, Nancy Wilson, Diane Schuur, Johnny Mandel, Skitch Henderson** and the **New York Pops, Gregory & Maurice Hines, Cindy Blackman, Gunther Schuller, Jason Linder's Big Band, the Diva Jazz Orchestra, the Artie Shaw Orchestra & the Jimmy Heath Big Band**.

Her latest album ***Round Tripper*** recorded May 2014 in Brooklyn NY, features bassist **Chris Lightcap, Matt Wilson** on drums, and fellow Australian musicians **Carl Dewhurst** on guitar and **Nadje Noordhuis** on trumpet. Released in Feb 2015, ***Round Tripper*** has received many great reviews, including a 4 star review in **Downbeat** jazz magazine.

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### Grants and awards

- Winner in the **Downbeat Critics Poll**, Rising Star for baritone saxophone (2016)
  - **Downbeat Readers Poll** for baritone saxophone (2016)
  - Awarded 6<sup>th</sup> place in the **Downbeat Critics Poll**, Rising Star for baritone saxophone (2015)
  - **Downbeat Readers Poll** for baritone saxophone (2015)
  - Awarded 6<sup>th</sup> place in the **Downbeat Critics Poll**, Rising Star for baritone saxophone (2014)
  - **Downbeat Readers Poll** for baritone saxophone (2014)
  - Awarded 7<sup>th</sup> place in the **Downbeat Critics Poll**, Rising Star for baritone saxophone (2013)
  - **Downbeat Readers Poll** for baritone saxophone (2004)
  - Australia Council International Study grant to study with **Lee Konitz** (1997)
  - Awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the **Wangaratta Jazz Festival saxophone competition** (1994)
  - Australia Council International Study grant to study with **Steve Coleman** (1993)
  - Nominated for a **MO Award for Best Female Jazz Performer of the Year** (1991, 1992)
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### Discography

As leader/co-leader: (4 albums)

- **Lisa Parrott** *Round Tripper* (Serious Niceness Records, Feb 2015) **4 stars in Downbeat!**
- **Nicki and Lisa Parrott** *The Awabakal Suite* (MonkeyPants Records, 2001)
- **PLK Trio** *Bab Bab* (Goat Angel Records, 1998)
- **NUDE** *Side of Clues* (Newmarket Music, Australia, 1993)

As a side person: (36 albums)

- **Cynthia Hilts** *Lytic Fury* (Blond Coyote Records, 2017)
- **Richard Bennett Quintet** *The Raga and the Abstract Truth* (Mystica Music, 2017)
- **Nicki Parrott** *Tribute to Nat King Cole* (Venus Records, 2017), *Winter Wonderland* (Venus, 2012), *Autumn Leaves* (Venus, 2012), *Summertime* (Venus, 2012), *Can't Take My Eyes Off You* (Venus, 2011), *Fever* (Venus, 2011), *Sakura Sakura* (Venus, 2011), *Black Coffee* (Venus, 2009), *Fly Me to the Moon* (Venus, 2008)
- **Allen Lowe** *A Day in Brooklyn* (Constant Sorrow, 2016) *I AM A Woman Again: The Life of Gladys Bentley* (Constant Sorrow, 2017)
- **Rob Reddy** *Bechet: Our Contemporary* (ReddyMusic, 2015), *The Book of the Storm* (ReddyMusic, 2007)
- **Diva Jazz Orchestra** *Special Kay* (Independent, 2016), *A Swingin' Life* (MCG Jazz, 2014), *Johnny Mandel: The Man and His Music* (Arbors Records, 2010), *Live at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola* (Independent, 2008), *TNT* (Lightyear Records, 2005), *Live in Concert* (independent, 2002), *I Believe In You* (Independent, 1998)
- **Marty Ehrlich Large Ensemble** *A Trumpet in the Morning* (New World Records, 2012)
- **Kenny Wessel Quartet**, as yet unreleased, (2012 NYC)
- **Virginia Mankow Sextet** *A Simple Thankyou* (Denon Records, 2007)

- **Ann Hampton Callaway with the Diva Jazz Orchestra** *Blues in the Night* (Telarc, 2006)
- **Maurice Hines** *To Nat King Cole with Love* (Arbors Records, 2006)
- **Emeline Michel** *Rasin Kreol* (Times Square Records, 2005)
- **Tommy Newsom** *Tommy Newsom & his Octo-Pussycats* (Arbors Records, 2003)
- **Derek Bronston Group** *Ebb* (Labor Records, 2001), *Longing* (Hacate Entertainment Group, 1999)
- **Don Aldolfo** *Ritmo Caliente* (Independent, 2000)
- **Jackie Orszacsky** *100%* (Wright Records, Australia, 1991)
- **John Foreman** *No Jivin'* (BMG Records, Australia, 1991)
- **Mike Nock Ensemble** (Jazztrack recording for ABC radio, Australia, 1989)

### Teaching experience

Woodwinds, music theory, composition & improvisation:

- Saxophone tutor at **Ocean Hill Collegiate** - 7th grade (2015-2017)
- Improvisation master class for jazz students at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia (2016)
- Improvisation master class for jazz students at Southern Cross University, Lismore, Australia (2016)
- Improvisation master class for jazz students at Gosford Conservatorium (2014)
- Improvisation master class for jazz students at Wollongong Conservatorium (2014)
- Improvisation master class for jazz students at Sydney Conservatorium (2011)
- Workshop leader & educator - **NY Pops** *Create a Symphony* program - 3rd-12th grade (2005-2013)
- Educator for the **NY Pops** *Salute to Music* program - 6th-10th grade (1996-97, 2007-2013)
- Trio workshops in NYC public schools K-5th grade for *Music Outreach* (2003-2011)
- Lectures and workshops in colleges & high schools with the **Diva Jazz Orchestra** (1998 to 2015)
- Sax, flute & clarinet teacher at the **Brooklyn Music School** (1998-2003)
- Sax, flute & clarinet guest teacher at the **Greenwich Music House** (2000-2003)
- Sax, flute & clarinet private students (1989 to present)

### Education

- Private study with **Lee Konitz** (1997)
- Saxophone/composition lessons with Steve Coleman (1993)
- Lessons with Dale Barlow, Howie Smith, Don Burrows, Vincent Herring, Geri Allen (1986–1991)
- Associate Diploma in Jazz Studies from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music (with merit) (1989)
- Saxophone/ Clarinet/ Piano studies - classical and jazz (1976-89)

### Theater experience

- Whitefish MT 'Alpine Theater Project' – *Full Monty* & *Man of La Mancha* – alto & bari sax, bass clarinet, flute, clarinet (2016)
- NYC 'In the Wings' production of *Gypsy* on alto sax, bass clarinet, clarinet (2015)
- NYC 'In the Wings' production of *Wizard of Oz* on alto sax, bass clarinet, clarinet (2015)
- Road tour backing **Hal Linden** on alto & bari saxes, flute, clarinet (2014)
- A week at the Carlyle Club backing **Hal Linden** on alto & bari saxes, flute, clarinet (2014)
- **Theater for the New City** (NYC production of *Pirates* on alto & sop saxes, flute, clarinet (1997)
- Australian production of *Hot Shoe Shuffle* with **David Atkins** on alto & sop sax, flute, clarinet (1992)
- Australian production of *Oliver* on alto & sop saxes, flute, clarinet (1989)
- Australian production of *Grease* on tenor sax, clarinet (1987)

### Music preparation experience

As a professional copyist and arranger since 1996 and using Sibelius exclusively since 2002, Lisa has done music preparation for many clients. For more info, check out [promusiccopying.com](http://promusiccopying.com)

- Commissions: 2 big band arrangements for the **Chicago Outskirts** big band
- Orchestra, large ensemble & big band: The **NY Pops**, **Marty Ehrlich**, **Joel Harrison**, **Freddy Cole**, **Diva Jazz Orchestra**, **Butch Morris**, **Tommy Newsom**, **Ann Hampton Callaway**, **Maurice Hines**
- Small groups & lead sheets: **Nicki Parrott**, **Jenny Scheinman**, **Jamie Baum**, **Virginia Mayhew**, **Allison Miller**, **Carl Thompson**, **Tim Price**, **Peck Allmond**, **Tom Olin**, **Pamela Luss**

### Press highlights

- “Lisa Parrott provides an enticing new voice on primarily alto, some baritone. Her playing sets the tone, and she’ll be one to watch in the future.” **Billboard magazine**
- “some of the legato lines that emanate from Parrott’s alto are positively serene.” **John Shand** *Australian Jazz and Blues*
- “she has developed that most prized of qualities – an original voice on her instrument.” **Peter Jordan** *Sydney Morning Herald*
- “Now one of Australia’s most creative jazz musicians..” - **Jim McLeod** *Australian Jazz and Blues*
- “the band engages in climactically driven improvisational discourses, abetted by Ms. Parrott’s warmly executed lines and sweet-tempered lyricism.” **Glenn Astarita** *All About Jazz*