



Joe LaRocca

Flutist/Multi- Instrumentalist

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Joe LaRocca, a native of Chicago Illinois, is a dynamic multi-wind player highly skilled on flute, piccolo, clarinet, saxophone, recorder, bagpipes, pan flute, dizi, bansuri, pan flute, ocarina, and tin whistle, with symphonic, theatrical, and improvisatory experience. His diverse repertoire reaches far beyond the realm of standard western concert music, spanning from rock to baroque. Joe has extensively studied and performed multiple idioms of world music and modern American music to include jazz, R&B/soul, Arabic classical, Latin Jazz, Brazilian, Venezuelan, Chinese, rock, Scottish highland, and Irish traditional music. He has studied under and performed with renowned musicians in these idioms to include; Marco Granados, Ruben Alvarez, Omar Al-musfi, Issam Rafea, Issa Boulos, Kinan Abou-afach, Jui-Ching Wang, Jiaqi Li, John McGann, Patrick Cannady, Ron Bowen, John Christopher Paris, Harry Skoler, and others. He is currently sitting Reed 1 on the Jesus Christ Superstar 50th Anniversary National Tour performing on tenor sax, flute and clarinet. He is formerly principal flutist of the DuBois Orchestra, the Belmont Festival Orchestra, and section flute in Boston Chamber Symphony, as well as a regular sub for a number of orchestras around Massachusetts. Joe is currently serving as Executive Director of the Du Bois Orchestra, an organization in Cambridge, MA that is dedicated to elevating the works of underrepresented composers into the canon of classical music.

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE HISTORY

- ♦ **Jesus Christ Superstar National Tour - Woodwinds - 2019-present**
 - ◊ Performed over 400 shows for the 50th anniversary tour of Jesus Christ Superstar around the United States on tenor saxophone, flute, and clarinet
 - ◊ Featured on stage as a costumed soloist in multiple locations with staged blocking, memorized music, and varied improvisation
- ♦ **Du Bois Orchestra - Principal Flute - 2016-2019**
 - ◊ Sat principal flute and piccolo for multiple seasons under Kai Johannes Polzhoffer, Nathaniel Meyer, and Dominique Hoskin
 - ◊ Successfully performed works to include Florence Price's 1st symphony, Beethoven's 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 7th symphonies, Mahler 3, Dvorak 9, Petite Suite by Samuel Coleridge Taylor, Copland's Appalachian Spring for 13 Musicians, and others
- ♦ **Freelance Musical Theater Pit, Horn Section, and Orchestral Work - 2008-2019**

EDUCATION

- ♦ **Artist Diploma** in Flute Performance *Longy School of Music*
- ♦ **Master of Music** in Multi-Wind Performance *Northern Illinois University*
- ♦ **Bachelor of Music** in Saxophone Performance *Columbia College Chicago*

INSTRUMENTS

- Flute (Piccolo, C, Alto, Bass)
- Saxophone (SATB)
- Clarinet (Bb, A, Eb, Bass)
- Traverso Flute (Baroque, Renaissance)
- Recorder (SSATB)
- Bagpipes (Highland, Medieval)
- Tin Whistle
- Dizi
- Hulusi
- Ocarina
- Pan Flute
- Bansuri
- Electronic Wind Instruments (Akai EWI 5000, Roland Aerophone AE-30)

WORLD MUSIC EXPERIENCE

- Middle Eastern Music Ensemble – sax/flute/clarinet 2015-2019
- Ensemble de la Fuego – Venezuelan Quartet - sax/flute/clarinet 2016-2019
- Latin Jazz Ensemble - sax/flute/clarinet 2015-2016
- Choro Ensemble - sax/flute/clarinet 2015-2016
- Chinese Music Ensemble – dizi/hulusi 2014-2015
- Latin Jazz Ensemble – sax/flute/clarinet 2009-2012
- Berklee - Celtic Ensemble - Irish flute 2008

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC EXPERIENCE

- Mano (Middle Eastern/rock fusion band) – sax/flute/clarinet 2008-2016
- The GameMen (video game music tribute band) 2012-2016
- J-Roc and The Biz – sax/flute/clarinet – 2010-2015
- Columbia College Pop/Jazz Fusion Ensemble - sax/flute/clarinet 2009
- Columbia College Jazz Combo - sax/flute/clarinet 2009-2012
- Berklee Blues Ensemble – sax/flute/clarinet 2007
- Berklee R&B Ensemble – sax/flute/clarinet 2007
- Berklee Contemporary Styles Ensemble –sax/flute/clarinet 2006
- Berklee Free Improvisation Ensemble – sax/flute/clarinet 2006-2008

MUSICAL THEATER/OPERA PIT EXPERIENCE

- Jesus Christ Superstar - woodwinds (tenor sax, flute, clarinet)
- The Secret Garden - reed 1 (flute, piccolo, alto flute, tin whistles, recorders, pan flute, clarinet)
- Beauty and the Beast - reed 1 (flute, piccolo)
- Mary Poppins - reed 1 (flute, piccolo)
- Hasty Pudding Theatricals – reed 1 (alto sax, flute)
- Les contes d'Hoffmann - flute 1
- The Magic Flute - flute 1
- La sonnambula - flute 1
- Fidelio - flute 1

ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE

- DuBois Orchestra – principal flute/piccolo 2016–2019
- Metropolitan Wind Symphony – principal piccolo 2016–2019
- The Cape Symphony – substitute tutti flute/piccolo 2016–2019
- Belmont Festival Orchestra – principal flute 2016–2018
- Boston Chamber Symphony – piccolo/tutti flute 2016–2019
- Symphony Pro Musica – substitute flute/piccolo 2016–2019
- Longy Conservatory Orchestra – principal flute 2016–2018
- Northern Illinois Chamber Orchestra – principal flute 2014–2015
- Festival Orchestra of Northwest Illinois – principal flute 2014–2015
- NIU Wind Ensemble – principal flute/section flute/piccolo 2014–2015
- NIU Philharmonic – principal flute/section flute/piccolo 2014–2015

CHAMBER EXPERIENCE

- The Bosch Ensemble – director/baroque flute 2016–present
- Flute and Harp Duo – flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Baroque Flute Ensemble – flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Ensemble Uncaged – sax/clarinet/flute/typewriter – 2016–2017
- Longy – Flute, Saxophone, and Piano Trio – flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Flute Soprano Duo – flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Flute and Percussion Duo – flute/alto flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Baroque Ensemble – traverso flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Flute, Harp, viola trio – flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Flute Trio with Piano – flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Baroque Flute Ensemble – flute – 2016–2017
- Longy – Flute, Clarinet, and Piano Trio – flute – 2016–2017
- NIU – Flute Quartet (Mozart) – flute – 2015
- NIU – Flute, Viola, and Harp Trio – flute – 2014–2015
- NIU – Flute Choir – first flute – 2015
- NIU – New Music Ensemble – first flute – 2015

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SOLO RECITALS

- Longy Artist Diploma Recital - "Gonzo Musicology Part 2" 2018
- Longy Artist Diploma Recital - "Gonzo Musicology" 2018
- Longy Artist Diploma Baroque Flute Recital 2017
- Longy Artist Diploma Recital 2017
- Trio Recital - Constellation (Chicago, IL) 2016
- NIU Graduate Solo Recital 2016
- Solo Recital - Constellation (Chicago, IL) 2016
- NIU Graduate Chamber Recital 2015
- Columbia College Chicago Senior Sax Recital 2012

PROFESSIONAL RECORDINGS

- The Bosch Ensemble - Baroque flute with continuo - 2021
 - ◊ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9szYjz1HQU>
 - ◊ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oPtiT7ODqmM>
 - ◊ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RjUj6p7lNyg>
- "Gonzo Musicology part 2" Recital - Longy School of Music
 - ◊ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIntOwLPQpc&t=1702s>
- "Gonzo Musicology" Recital - Longy School of Music
 - ◊ www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIntOwLPQpc&t=4s
- Solo Recital - Longy School of Music
 - ◊ <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKNJ19YCuZ4yKqSkETkLn39u4RGXIdEmt>
- Album - Mano (Original rock fusion music composed by Joe LaRocca)
 - ◊ <https://mano4chicago.bandcamp.com/releases>
- Vermont Counterpoint
 - ◊ <https://soundcloud.com/manochicago/vermont-counterpoint>

SUMMER FESTIVALS/WORKSHOPS

- Amherst Early Music Festival - New London, CT
- International Baroque Institute at Longy - Cambridge, MA
- Divergent Studio at Longy - Cambridge, MA
- Talis Festival and Academy - Saas Fe, Switzerland
- Nief Norf Summer Performance Workshop - Knoxville, TN
- Chigiana Academy - Siena, Italy
- Festival of Flutes - Chicago, IL

HONORS/AWARDS

- Longy School of Music - Artist Diploma Scholarship
- NIU Honors Convocation
- NIU Chamber Ensemble Competition - Winner
- NIU Green Music Scholarship
- NIU Talent Scholarship