

## **Jessica Pierce**

Flutist Jessica Pierce began her studies in Northern California with Isabelle Chapuis and Mimi Carlson. Jessica attended Santa Clara University where she received a Bachelor's Degree in both music and French. During her time there, Jessica was a soloist with the Santa Clara Orchestra as well as the Saratoga Symphony. She was accepted into the prestigious Academie Internationale d'Ete de Nice where she studied with Philippe Bernold, Christian Lardé and Claude Bolling.

Her studies then brought her to Paris where she attended the famed Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris with Pierre-Yves Artaud. Jessica graduated the conservatory with honors both in flute performance and chamber music. While in Paris she began a guitar and flute duo, AlmaNova, with guitarist, Almer Imamovic.

The duo has had many concerts together around the world, particularly in Sarajevo at the Dom Armije and in Paris at the Theatre de Naples. The duo has also performed at the Tijuana International Guitar Festival in 2004 in Mexico, the Cardiff International Center of Culture in Wales, the 2006 International Giuliani Festival in Pasadena and the 2007 National Flute Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Jessica is currently a student of Jim Walker at the University of Southern California where she has completed a Master's Degree in Flute Performance and is completing a Doctorate of Musical Arts. While at USC, Jessica has performed with Yo-Yo Ma, Scott Tennant, Itzhak Perlman, Eleonore Schoenfeld, Peter Marsh, Gary Glaze, and Kevin Fitzgerald and has performed under the baton of Carl St. Clair, Sergei Commissiona, Jorge Mester, John Barnett, Yehuda Gilad, and Donald Crockett.

Jessica has also worked along side great artists within the Pop/Rock world such as Earth, Wind and Fire, Richard Marx, Dennis DeYoung, Wayne Brady, and Heather Headley. AlmaNova is currently on tour with classical/cross-over singer, Valencia Vas.

Jessica is currently Professor of Flute Studies at the South Pasadena Music Center and Conservatory.