

## **James Newton – Biography**

James Newton (Composer/Flutist/Conductor) is one of the world's true flute virtuosos in numerous musical idioms. His work encompasses chamber, symphonic, and electronic music genres, compositions for ballet and modern dance, and numerous Jazz and World Music contexts.

Mr. Newton has been the recipient of many awards, fellowships and grants including Guggenheim and Rockefeller Fellowships, Montreux Grande Prix Du Disque and Downbeat International Critics Jazz Album of the Year, as well as being voted the top flutist for 23 consecutive years in Downbeat's International Critic's Poll.

Described as a "musician's renaissance man," Newton has performed with many notable artists in the Jazz and Classical fields, such as Mingus Dynasty, the New York Philharmonic, David Murray, Vladimir Spivakov and the Moscow Virtuosi, the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Anthony Davis, Southwest Chamber Music, Bobby Hutcherson, Ear Unit, New York New Music Ensemble, San Francisco Ballet, Jon Jang, Kenny Burrell, Herbie Hancock and the Los Angeles Philharmonic New Music Group to name a few. Newton served for five years as Musical Director/ Conductor of the Luckman Jazz Orchestra and has held Professorships at University of California at Irvine, California Institute of the Arts and Cal State University at Los Angeles.

His Classical compositions have been performed worldwide by many notable chamber ensembles, ballet and modern dance companies and symphony orchestras. Newton's most recent commission for an original Latin Mass received its world premiere at the Metastasio Festival, Chiesa San Francesco, in Prato, Italy February 4th 2007.