

"If you have a high-resolution audio system, the power and depth of Amy Shook's bass on "Just You/Just Me" will remind you why you spent all that money."

~Thomas Conrad, Jazztimes Magazine, Oct. 2007~

"Amy Shook builds tension in her blues march groove to climax with the inclusion of the rhythm section and the harmonious horns that float, swirl, roll and boil to a gentle simmer, giving way to graceful poise."

"So Far From Home should be in every straight-ahead, jazz lover's house."

~Paul J. Youngman, www.jazzreview.com. 2009~

On Tchaikowsky's Andante Cantabile: "...Shook taking a stately solo early on, sounding like a Bach insertion by way of Ron Carter or Gary Peacock in a high thoughtful mode before later bowing her stand-up for a cello-istic finale."

On Bill Evans' B Minor Waltz: "Shook's solo is a stand-out, highly sympathetic..."

~Mark Tucker, Veritas Vampirus issue #1267, review of MATRIX by the Fred Hughes Trio, 2016

"...one must also note Shook's rock solid contribution to the project and her composition "Brag Time" is an inspired medium tempo toe tapper that finds the whole band in excellent form..."

~H. Allen Williams, JazzTimes online review of Leigh Pilzer's STRUNKIN', 2016

Amy Shook is one of the most in-demand acoustic bassists in the mid-Atlantic, coveted for her huge sound and infectious, driving groove. In addition to being a premier performing and recording artist, she is an accomplished multi-instrumentalist (playing acoustic bass, electric bass, violin, viola, and cello), composer and music educator. Amy co-leads the Shook/Russo 4tet, a band she started in 2004 with her husband, tenor saxophonist Pat Shook, and drummer Frank Russo. Along with their guitarist Jonathan Epley, the SR4tet's focus has always been to compose and perform their own original music within the jazz idiom, honoring the masters by carrying on the tradition. The result is an incredible and unique sound, and a whirlwind of grooves, melodies, and diverse textures that are a true delight to hear. The SR4tet currently has two CDs on Summit Records featuring Greg Gisbert, and their newest release will be available in 2019. Additionally, Amy and Frank also co-led the FAB Trio with Baltimore jazz pianist extraordinaire, Bob Butta. The trio's album, *The Shook/Russo Trio featuring Bob Butta: Introducing the FAB Trio* on Summit Records, debuted new music by both Amy and Bob, and received national acclaim in Jazztimes Magazine. She has also received national recognition in reviews for her performance on the album *Uncertain Path* by the Rob Levit Trio, with guitarist Rob Levit, and drummer Frank Russo. As a result, she was featured in *Bassics* magazine on their CD Sampler published with the magazine. In 2017, Amy (with the SR5tet, which included trumpeter Tim Leahey) was a

featured artist for the D.C. Jazz Festival's "*Bass-ically Yours*" series at the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, celebrating D.C.'s premier jazz bassists.

Amy is featured on singer/songwriter Felicia Carter's 2008 double CD release *Feather/Step Lightly*, both as a performer (acoustic bass, violin and viola) and arranger. She also collaborated with Ms. Carter, writing music and lyrics for *Next Stop: Silver Spring*, a television documentary on the B&O Railroad, airing on WETA (DC) in early 2008. In 2011, Felicia Carter and Amy Shook released their first CD collaboration *Nothing To Do*, receiving great acclaim, leading to multiple performances at Baltimore's award-winning venue, Centerstage, including premier billing for the December 2011 four-day Holiday Cabaret series.

In the summer of 2013, Amy joined the Fred Hughes Trio (Fred Hughes, piano, Amy Shook, bass and Frank Russo, drums), performing for audiences up and down the east coast. The trio recorded a live DVD performance in the spring of 2014 at the historic Avalon Theatre in Easton, MD, and can be viewed on YouTube. Since then, they have released 3 more critically acclaimed albums, *Love Letters* in 2015, *I'll Be Home For Christmas* in 2015, and *Matrix* in 2016. For more information, visit www.fredhughes.com.

In the fall of 2013, Amy joined Sherrie Maricle and the DIVA Jazz Orchestra, backing up Maurice Hines in his show, *Maurice Hines' is TAPPIN' THRU LIFE*, for critically acclaimed performances at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. and the Cleveland Playhouse in Cleveland, OH. In Cleveland, Sherrie and Amy met pianist Jackie Warren and formed the all-women powerhouse trio 3Divas. They went on to more critically acclaimed performances of *TAPPIN' THRU LIFE* in Wilmington, DE at the Delaware Theater Company, Off-Broadway at New World Stages in New York (garnering accolades as the super swingin' trio that sparked the fire that ignited Maurice's award-winning show, described by the New York Times as "blistering hot"), at Penn's Landing Playhouse in Philadelphia, and a live webcast concert version of the show at Dizzy's Club Coca Cola at Jazz At Lincoln Center in New York. They also did a TV performance of the show, filmed live at the Katherine Hepburn Performing Arts Center in Old Saybrook, CT, for *The Kate TV's* 2nd season (PBS), airing in April of 2017. Later in 2017, 3Divas' eagerly awaited debut CD, simply titled *3Divas*, was released and met with widespread critical acclaim. Currently, the 3D Jazz Trio's most prestigious honor to date was having been invited to perform at legendary music icon Nancy Wilson's 80th Birthday Party, held on February 20, 2017 at the Taglyan Complex in Los Angeles, CA, performing at the request of Ms. Wilson herself. 3D has also been twice featured on WVIA radio's Homegrown Music Series.

Baritone saxophonist extraordinaire and fellow DIVA member, Leigh Pilzer, invited 3D, as well as trombonist Jen Krupa, to perform at the 2016 Washington Women In Jazz Festival in Washington, D.C. The resulting live recording, *STRUNKIN'*, is Leigh's first recording as a bandleader, and is straight-ahead, swingin' jazz at it's finest. Recorded by Grammy-winning engineer Charlie Pilzer at Allyworld, *STRUNKIN'* features six

originals by Leigh, one by Jen, and one by Amy, and has garnered rave reviews both nationally and internationally.

In addition to her constant performance and recording schedule, Amy is also an accomplished music educator, and holds two bachelor's degrees (violin performance and composition) and a master's degree (violin performance) from the University of Idaho in Moscow, ID. Amy also performs and teaches both as a solo artist, as well as with various ensemble teaching artists (such as with 3Divas and the Fred Hughes Trio), coaching and doing clinics and residencies with young and mature jazz students alike. For nearly ten years, Amy was one of the integral components of the Washington Performing Arts Society's (WPAS) Capitol Jazz Project in affiliation with Wynton Marsalis and Jazz At Lincoln Center. The Capitol Jazz Project holds an unique partnership with the D.C. Public Schools to support the study of music through jazz instruction and student performance in the schools, as well as through a free summer jazz camp. Additionally, for over twelve years Amy had been an ensemble coach and featured clinician in the greater Washington, D.C. area with Jeff Antoniuk's Jazz Band Masterclasses, working with adult amateur jazz musicians, coaching them monthly in small group settings, as well as a teaching artist for Antoniuk's internationally attended Maryland Summer Jazz camp for adult jazz musicians held in Rockville, MD.

Amy has performed with Maurice Hines in *Maurice Hines' Tappin Thru Life*, Sherrie Maricle and the DIVA Jazz Orchestra, Lionel Hampton, Larry Willis, Greg Gisbert, George Mesterhazy, Wessell Anderson, Ali Ryerson, Wycliffe Gordon, Walt Weiskopf, Tim Warfield, Suede, Valery Ponomarev, Giacomo Gates, Steve Nelson, Lewis Nash, Greg Abate, Warren Wolf, Nicole Henry, and the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Ensemble to name a few. She has performed at the Kennedy Center, Dizzy's Club Coca Cola, Lincoln Center Damrosch Park, National Gallery Of Art Sculpture Gardens, Blues Alley, The Birchmere, Mezzrow, Baltimore's Centerstage, the Avalon Theatre, The Deer Head Inn, Chris' Jazz Cafe, The Strathmore Mansion, Arena Stage for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., the Cleveland Playhouse, the Delaware Theater Company, off-Broadway at New World Stages in NYC, the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, the Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival, the D.C. Jazz Festival, Tri-C Jazz Festival, Washington Women in Jazz Festival, COTA Jazz Festival, the Cape May Jazz Festival, and the True Blue Jazz Festival, and performed at the White House twice in 2009 with the Eli Yamin Quintet by special invitation. For more information, please visit www.amyshook.com.

Amy's bass, "L'Oscuro" (The Darker), was made by Luciano Golia of Torino, Italy. Amy's violin and viola were made by Jack Koncel of Boise, ID.