

# BIO

## Neil Swainson

### *Bass*

Neil Swainson is among the most respected and accomplished bassists on the jazz scene today. In the 1970s he began playing with Canadian greats: Moe Koffman, Ed Bickert, Rob McConnell, Peter Appleyard, and many others. He has worked countless notable artists, to name a few: James Moody, George Coleman, Jay McShann, Tommy Flanagan, Lee Konitz, Joe Farrell, and Slide Hampton. Widely recorded, Neil's first recording as a leader, *49th Parallel*, features Woody Shaw on trumpet and Joe Henderson on saxophone. Valued for his intuitive accompanying skills, harmonic depth, and technical prowess, Neil also caught the ear of the great pianist George Shearing. In 1986 they established a bond that continued until Shearing's passing in 2011. They performed and recorded worldwide, also with many other great artists, such as Mel Tormé, Joe Williams, Nancy Wilson, Robert Farnon, and Diana Krall. Neil is the recipient of numerous awards, and he continues to compose and freelance extensively in Toronto.