

ELI YAMIN

Biography

(SHORT)

Eli Yamin is a jazz and blues pianist, producer, educator and Steinway artist. Raised in the bands of jazz masters Walter Perkins, Illinois Jacquet and Barry Harris, Eli's exciting and imaginative piano playing has taken him and his groups around the world as cultural ambassadors for the U.S. Department of State and has led him to perform and teach at the famed *Jazz at Lincoln Center* in New York City as well as invited for a command performance at President Obama's White House. Yamin co-founded The Jazz Drama Program, which uplifts students, teachers and their communities through interactive experiences in the jazz arts—storytelling, music, theatre, dance and visual arts. Yamin's compositions "A Healing Song," about the healing power of the blues, and "Rwandan Child" about the wisdom of children, awaken a shared sense of humanity, love and joy in all audiences. Eli's jazz musicals for children are performed around the world and licensed by Theatrical Rights Worldwide. His CDs are featured on Sirius XM and Jazz 88, WBGO in Newark.

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Recent CD releases present a wide range of creativity, from revisiting the classics in *I Feel So Glad* with *The Eli Yamin Blues Band* reworking of "Hound Dog" and "I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free," and Eli's anthem, "A Healing Song" to *You Can't Buy Swing* featuring his jazz quartet as well as several educational and fun jazz musicals for children, *Nora's Ark* with *The Eli Yamin Jazz Quintet* joined by the Grammy award winning *Brooklyn Youth Chorus* and Eli's latest *Holding the Torch for Liberty*, the jazz musical about the women's suffrage movement.

In addition to his work with The Jazz Drama Program, Eli is a training specialist at Jazz at Lincoln Center and head of instruction at the Middle School Jazz Academy. Eli teaches jazz worldwide to business leaders, middle school students, K-12 teachers, college professors and performing artists and feels that “teaching and learning jazz should feel as creative as playing it.” He is a member of the Fordham Consortium and a consultant for the National Endowment For The Arts and WBGO Radio.

Eli performs internationally with his jazz quartet, blues band and in duo with clarinetist Evan Christopher and is constantly blown away by the power of jazz and blues music to uplift, inspire and unite people of all ages and backgrounds.

Eli holds a Master's Degree in Music Education from Lehman College, City University of New York and lives with his wife, Lorraine, and 7-year old daughter, Manika, in New York City.