

Carolyn Beck

Described as “a fearless player... as well as a musician with a keen sense of phrasing and color.” (Gramophone), bassoonist Carolyn Beck is the Principal Bassoonist with the San Bernardino and Redlands Symphonies, and performs with many other orchestras in the Los Angeles area including period instrument groups. Her solo CD "Beck and Call" is available on Crystal Records. She was the bassoon co-host of the 2013 International Double Reed Society conference in Redlands, California.

Her solo performances include the Joan Tower bassoon concerto with the Pomona College Orchestra in October 2014, the premiere of the Christopher James' Bassoon Concerto in New your City in June 2012 with North South Consonances, performances of The Five Sacred Trees, concerto for bassoon and orchestra by John Williams with the Redlands Symphony, and appearances at several International Double Reed Society conferences. She regularly appears at the Beverly Hills International Music Festival and has performed with Chamber Music Palisades, the Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Society (Massachusetts), Southwest Chamber Music, Mladi, and other chamber music groups in the Los Angeles area. A champion of new music, she has commissioned and performed new solo works for bassoon in New York City, Los Angeles, Baltimore, Minneapolis, Austin, San Diego, Baton Rouge, New Haven, and Banff, Canada. She has performed with a number of contemporary music ensembles including the Twentieth Century Consort in Washington D.C. and North-South Consonance in New York.

Dr. Beck currently teaches bassoon at the University of Redlands, California State University Northridge, Pomona College, and the Idyllwild Arts Academy. From 1988-92 she was the bassoon professor at The University of Texas at Austin.

She received the degrees of Doctor of Musical Arts from the Manhattan School of Music, Master of Music from the Yale School of Music, and Bachelor of Arts in Bassoon Performance from California State University, Northridge.

She was formerly the Principal Bassoonist of the Buffalo Philharmonic and the Orchesta Sinfonica del Principado de Asturias in Spain. On the East Coast she has performed with the Washington Opera, American Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, South Jersey Symphony, North South Consonance, and New York Philomusica.