**JAMIE SHEW – MEDIUM BIO (339 words)**

“Forgive me if I don’t have the words. Maybe I can sing it and you’ll understand.”   
-Ella Fitzgerald

Whether on stage or in the classroom, these are words that Los Angeles jazz vocalist Jamie Shew seeks to achieve – to project personal emotions and experiences through song.

Originally a native of the Pacific Northwest, Jamie began her musical training at age four, when she was first introduced to the piano. The desire to sing was very strong for Jamie throughout her childhood, however, she was always needed as an accompanist. It was during her senior year in high school that her choir director had her sing a Karen Carpenter solo – a pivotal moment. She was hooked and went on to earn a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education from Washington State University and a Master’s Degree in Vocal Performance/Jazz Studies at Western Michigan University.

Jamie’s new critically acclaimed album, *Eyes Wide Open*, features Larry Koonse on guitar, Joe Bagg on piano and Hammond B3, Darek Oles on bass, and Jason Harnell on drums. She uses song to tell the story of her 20-year relationship with her husband, bass player Roger Shew, and the loss she experienced when he succumbed to cancer. *Eyes Wide Open* is a project imbued with love and loss but eschews mere sentimentality.  Her innate musicality is showcased in her phrasing and tone, but it's how she reveals the depth of the human condition that sets this project apart.

As a jazz vocalist, Jamie continues to enjoy a rich performance schedule throughout the United States and internationally. She surrounds herself with some of the most world-renowned jazz musicians such as Larry Koonse, Darek Oles, Royce Campbell, Chuck Manning, Bruce Babad, Jeremy Siskind, Kendall Kay, Mike Scott, Matt Politano, Danny Janklow, Dave Robaire, Will Brahm, Joe Bagg, Jason Harnell, Dan Schnelle, and Josh Nelson.

In addition to a dynamic performance career, Jamie is also Coordinator of Vocal Jazz Studies at Fullerton College in Fullerton, California, and an in-demand adjudicator, clinician, and guest artist for jazz festivals around the globe.