

Rhonda Larson

Biography

Rhonda Larson is a Grammy Award-winning player of the flute, born and raised in the mountains of Montana. Growing up in this wild-west Big Sky Country helped shape Rhonda into a free-spirited, nature-loving, progressive flutist with a passion for music. She entered the national music scene by winning first prize in the National Flute Association's Young Artist Competition at the age of 22, including a Carnegie Hall debut. Shortly thereafter, Rhonda was invited to join forces with the Paul Winter Consort, initiating her journey into a rich palette of music gleaned from around the world, culminating six years later in winning a Grammy Award.

Composing much of her own music, Larson showcases her gold flute and an array of world flutes in a new and refreshing light. She has expanded the sonic capabilities of her instrument in producing entirely new techniques, most notably her inventive flute-and-vocal technique, performed simultaneously.

Ms. Larson has performed solo or with her band *Ventus* world-wide, including teaching masterclasses at many universities and flute organizations. She also offers her own masterclass productions in Italy and USA, and online. Rhonda teaches private flute lessons both in-person in rural Connecticut, and online world-wide.

As a recording artist, Rhonda has a discography of over 20 commercial recordings. Rhonda also records for studio music producers' releases, documentaries, and short films. Rhonda has three commercial recordings with *Ventus: Free as a Bird*, *Distant Mirrors*, and *Live from China* (recorded during a twenty-five-city tour throughout China).

Ms. Larson received Downbeat's 2018 *Critics Poll Rising Star* for Flute and performed on the live CBS finale episode of 'Survivor' from Madison Square Garden's, seen by over 40 million viewers. Rhonda is featured in "Flute Stories--101 Inspirational Stories from the World's Best Flute Players" publication. She is a former Board member of the National Flute Association and currently serves on the Board of the World Flute Society. She owns and operates her publishing company, *Wood Nymph Music*, producing her sheet music and other compositions, including graphic design and distribution.

Rhonda and her husband Dr. Lee deLisle live much of their time in Connecticut, and part time at their home in the medieval village of Roccantica, Italy. When not playing the flute, Rhonda is an avid photographer, journal-er, and yoga enthusiast, and can usually be found out-doors.

You can learn more about Rhonda from her website at: **www.RhondaLarson.com**