

## "1815 Abraham Prescott (LaFaro) Bass Violin"

Scott LaFaro เป็นมือเบสของ Bill Evan Trio ในช่วงปี 1959-1961

LaFaro มีชื่อเสียงในด้านเล่น Solo ไม่ยึดติดกับรูปแบบของ Rhythm variety แบบเดิม ๆ (ด้วยความที่เป็นคนเล่นเครื่องเป่ามาก่อน) เป็นคนที่มีพรสวรรค์มาก ๆ แต่น่าเสียดายที่อายุสั้นมาก LaFaro ตายจากอุบัติเหตุเมื่อปี 1961 ด้วยวัยเพียง 25 ปี ลองอ่านประวัติที่มาของเบสตัวนี้ดูครับ น่าสนใจมาก

*(The text explained the bass quoted from Kolstein web site.)*

This unusual design Abraham Prescott is a most notable bass due to its rarity as a small Bussetto comered Abraham Prescott and its historic significance as the former property of the legendary jazz bassist Scott LaFaro.

The instrument was found by another jazz giant, the late Red Mitchell, on behalf his dear friend and colleague, Scott LaFaro. The Bass was brought back to New York, where dimensionally the bass was perfect for Scott, but tonally the bass was in need of restoration. A third jazz great, the late George Duvivier, was in the process of doing some recordings with LaFaro and suggested that he accompany him to the shop of Samuel Kolstein to have the Prescott evaluated for tonal restoration.

LaFaro agreed and came to the then Merrick, New York shop of Samuel Kolstein. Sam was so taken with the talents of the young LaFaro that he offered to accomplish the repairs with payment to be made whenever Scott was in the position to do so. As Sam stated, "The sound that emanated from the instrument storage room was something I had never heard. It was breathtaking!"

The Prescott bass was fully restored to a level structurally and tonally that, in conjunction with the God-given talents of LaFaro, allowed Scott to set the standard for all jazz bassists since. LaFaro's last recordings with the Prescott were with the Bill Evan's Trio, featuring Bill Evans, piano and Paul Motian, drums. On July 6, 1961, a few days after making his last recording, Scott died at age 25 when the car he was driving hit a tree and burned near Flint, NY. The Prescott was

in the car with Scott and suffered extensive damage leaving the bass in unplayable condition until the its restoration in 1988.

Sam Kolstein acquired the bass after the tragic accident but never had the heart to face the bass due to his closeness to the late LaFaro. In 1986 Sam and Barie Kolstein discussed the fact that the bass should be restored for exhibition at the 1988 International Society of Bassists convention to be held in Los Angeles, California. This convention was to be dedicated to the memory of the late LaFaro. Barie Kolstein completed this monumental restoration in time for the convention in 1988.

The Kolstein family decided that the bass would remain one of the few basses that would not be sold, but would be exhibited for young aspiring bassists to see and play upon. The bass has also been utilized to raise contributions for the Milt Hinton Scholarship Fund and can be seen in a color commemorative poster featuring many of the greatest bassists who assembled at the Manhattan Center for a charitable photo shoot. Milt Hinton was photographed with the LaFaro Prescott.

Kolstein's has decided that when the LaFaro Prescott is offered for sale, portions of the proceeds will be donated to several annuity scholarship funds, including the Scott LaFaro Memorial Scholarship Fund. The bass remains in the collection of Barie Kolstein.