



## Jason's Notes: Feb. 1, 2010

The **jazz Grammy winners** were announced on Sunday, and a few of them have been guests on the show, including Kurt Elling, Terence Blanchard and Jeff "Tain" Watts. If you visit the show's Web site, you'll find links to interviews with all three artists along the left side of the page.

I write an occasional jazz profile for the *Island Packet* newspaper on Hilton Head Island, SC. My friend Jeff Vrabel is the entertainment editor there, and there's a nice club called The Jazz Corner that books regional and national acts. This week I wrote a piece on **pianist Noel Freidline**. You'll find it here:

<http://blogs.islandpacket.com/37844>

I've been reading a lot of Robert Creeley's poetry recently. Several years back, he and bassist Steve Swallow collaborated on an album called *So There*. I interviewed Swallow about the album for All About Jazz in 2007. You'll find that interview here:

<http://www.allaboutjazz.com/php/article.php?id=24544>

Finally, speaking of poetry, I'll send you to two recent efforts of mine:

"Long Haul"

<http://jasoncrane.org/2010/01/25/poem-long-haul/>

"At Mr. Frost's"

<http://jasoncrane.org/2010/01/29/poem-at-mr-frosts/>

**This week on the show:** Linda Oh (TJS #139, Monday) and Benny Powell (TJS #140, Thursday).

**Next week:** Lee Shaw (TJS #141, Monday) and Hiromi (TJS #142, Thursday).

Peace, love and jazz,

Jason

## This week on *The Jazz Session*:



**TJS #139: Linda Oh.** Bassist Linda Oh was born in Malaysia to Chinese parents, grew up in Perth, Australia, and now plays the bass in New York City. Her debut recording, *Entry* (self-produced, 2009), is a strong trio statement featuring trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire and drummer

Obed Calvaire. In this interview, Oh discusses her decision to challenge herself on her first recording; her upbringing and how it influenced her decision to become a jazz bassist; and how she has dealt with stereotypes about Asian women as she's forged her career. **SHOW AVAILABLE NOW. [LISTEN](#)**



**TJS #140: Ben Powell.** Violinist Ben Powell made his festival debut this summer at the 2009 Tanglewood Jazz Festival, where this interview was recorded. Powell was raised in Cheltenham, England, the son of a cellist and a violin teacher. He released the album *Light* in 2008. In

this interview, Powell talks about his musical upbringing; how a chance meeting with an American conductor led to a Berklee scholarship; and why he's chosen to focus on music from the early days of jazz. **SHOW AVAILABLE STARTING 2/4/10.**

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