

Tony Striplen, clarinetist, is a member of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. He has been affiliated with the San Francisco Opera for many years, first as Principal Clarinet for the company's touring arm, Western Opera Theater, and now as its Bass Clarinetist. Tony is a co-founder of both the Gold Coast Chamber Players and the non-profit group, "Topics in Tempo," a program designed for schools that uses music as a tool to teach the academic subjects. Throughout his career, Tony has performed with a wide variety of artists ranging stylistically from Luciano Pavarotti to Ella Fitzgerald to Metallica. Tony currently records at Skywalker Studios for many music, cinema and other media projects. He has appeared with San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Symphony on the Deutsche Grammaphon, Teldec, and Sony record labels among others. Tony recorded "Tropes" for 2 clarinets (with San Francisco Symphony Principal Clarinetist, Carey Bell) on the album 'Many Moons' featuring compositions by Jorge Liderman. Outside the Bay Area, among the venues Tony has performed at include Carnegie Hall, Orchestra Hall in Chicago, The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and the the Jerash Festival in Amman, Jordan. His mentors on clarinet include, Donald Carroll of the San Francisco Symphony, Rosario Mazzeo, Harold Wright, and Craig Nordstrom, all of the Boston Symphony, and his first teacher Mary Moore. Tony is on the music faculty at San Francisco State University.