

Frank L. Wilson Jr.
De Grand Records and Tapes
P.O. Box 2013, Glendale, CA 91209-2013
818/242-2138

- 1959 Received GED from Armed Forces Institute, United States Air Force.
- 1959 – 1963 Performed with the Drum and Bugle Corp, United States Air Force, 1963. Honorably discharged.
- 1963 – 1965 Attended Norfolk State College, Norfolk, Virginia.
History major. Music minor.
- 1963 – 1970 Created and managed **The Gentlemen**. Toured throughout Canada, Puerto Rico, Bahamas and the East Coast. Venues: New York City: Small's Paradise, Cheetah Club, Shepards at the Drake Hotel. Buffalo, New York: Pine Grill. Atlantic City, New Jersey: Club Harlem, Le Bistro Supper Club. Miami, Florida: Hilton. Paradise Island, Bahamas and Puerto Rico. Montreal, Canada: Esquire Show Bar.
- 1970 Relocated to Los Angeles, California.
- 1975 – 1977 Performed, toured and recorded with **John Mayall, King of British Blues**. Recorded album, *Lots of People Live*, from the Roxy (ABC Records).
- 1977 Attended Los Angeles City College Music Program. Began private music lessons with **David C. Smith, Billy Moore School of Percussion and Clarence Johnston**.
- 1977 – 1979 Performed with **Gloria Lynn and David Benoit**. Venues: Parisian Room, Los Angeles, CA and Hungry Joe's, Huntington Beach, CA.
- 1980 – 1983 Performed with **TWB Trio** at the Rose Tattoo (house band situation). Guest artists included Linda Hopkins and Jocelyn Joyce.
- 1984 – 1987 Performed and recorded with **The Billy Mitchell Group**. Recordings include three albums: *Blue City Jam* (Pausa Records), *Night Theme* (Pausa Records) and *Faces* (Optimism).
- 1987 – 1990 Performed, toured and recorded nationally and worldly with **Jimmy Smith**. Venues: from New York's Blue Note to Emeryville's Kimball's East, Poland, Russia, West Germany, France and Italy. Album and Compact Disc, *Primetime on Fantasy* (Milestone Records). **Included**

in the Jimmy Smith discography, *AU Music Guide, Volume II.*

- 1991 – 1996 Performed, produced and recorded with **Karen Hernandez** at the Money Tree, Toluca Lake, CA and JP's Lounge, Burbank, CA as well as various local clubs. Established De Grand Records and Tapes. Recorded and produced Compact Disc, *Soundsphere* with original selections from Frank and Karen. Air play on Jazz radio stations: KLON, Los Angeles, CA; WGBO, New Jersey and the New York area.
- 1997 – present Performing and recording with **Eric Ekstrand Ensemble**, 10 piece Big Band, throughout the Los Angeles area. Venues: The Derby, Hollywood, CA, Coconut Club, Beverly Hills, CA and St. Stephen's Green, Santa Monica, CA Recently recorded Compact Disc, *Spiked Heel Stomp*.
- 1998 – present Performing, touring and recording with Jimmy Smith Quartet at various locations nationally and worldly. Performing locally with the **Frank Wilson Group** featuring the Quartet.

With more than 25 years behind the drums and as a songwriter and producer, I have become the drummer of choice for studio work, club dates and tours. I have performed and worked with various artists: Jon Hendricks, Richie Cole, Joe Liggins, The Honey Drippers and currently, the master, Jimmy Smith.