



NORA McCARTHY

Jazz Singer,
Composer, Lyricist,
Poet, Actor

A Sound Reminiscent of the Great Voices and Horns In Jazz

Nora McCarthy Bio



- A prominent member of the New York jazz scene, vocalist, composer, lyricist, poet and actor, Nora McCarthy has enjoyed a very productive and significant musical career since 1996 when she recorded *red&blue*, her first of thus far nine CD's, with John di Martino-piano, Mike Lee-saxophone, Essiet Okon Essiet-bass, Alvester Garnet-drums and Sato Takeishi-percussion. Her eighth CD, *blesSINGS*, released in 2016 won the 38th Annual Jazz Station Awards in two categories: Best Jazz Singer and Best Jazz Vocal CD as well as the cover of Jazz Inside Magazine.
- McCarthy, a devotee of classic jazz, global rhythms and the fine arts, is a musical colorist, and interpreter of the lyric; a beautiful balladeer in the tradition of the great Jimmy Scott. Her burnished alto voice is steeped in tradition and rich with a distinctive style that cuts a broad swath from trad jazz, Great American Songbook, modern jazz, bebop, post-bop, soul, rhythm & blues, and beyond. An impressive improviser, her sound is reminiscent of the great voices and horns in jazz.

Nora McCarthy Bio (cont'd)



Joe's Pub, Public Theatre, NYC

- McCarthy currently leads the following groups: The People of Peace Quintet; The Nora McCarthy Trio; Nora McCarthy Qu'ART'et; A Small Dream In Red Innovative Voice and Saxophone Duo; Manna For Thought Improvising Trio; and, The Modern Voice Ensemble; and, is co-founder with alto-saxophonist Jorge Sylvester of ConceptualMotion Orchestra, a 20-piece large ensemble. In addition, Nora is an original member of Sylvester's ACE (Afro-Caribbean-Experimental) Collective and the Extended Edition with Strings—two rhythmically charged groups that perform Sylvester's and McCarthy's original music, her poetry and lyrics.

A unique and dynamic vocal artist in the world of jazz and creative music today.

Nora McCarthy Highlights

- McCarthy' has written over 30 compositions and graphic compositions, soundscapes and poetic architectures that she has been designing since 2001 for her advanced music groups and has penned lyrics to dozens of jazz standards, other compositions as well as her own original music.
- Nora and her groups perform at some of the top clubs, jazz venues, concert halls, cultural centers, universities, and festivals in New York City, the Tri-State area and elsewhere in the USA and in the world.
- Early 2019 McCarthy made her off Broadway acting debut in the play Moral Support, a drama written by Bill Considine, directed by Félix E. Gardón at Medicine Show Theatre, NYC.
- Nora is a regular guest artist in pianist David Haney's and legendary drummer Bernard Purdie's ongoing production Jazz Stories at The Public Theater/Joe's Pub, NYC
- Nora presents a jazz radio show for Cadence Jazz World (<http://www.cadencejazzworld.com>) called, "Nora's Jazz Show" featuring jazz and avant-jazz, world jazz by established and emerging artists from around the world.

(L to R back) Rick Parker, Marvin Sewell, Gene Torres Pat Hall, Kuba Chichocki, Waldron Mahdi Ricks, Kenny Grohowski, Gregoroy Hammontree, Josh Levinson, Tim Armacost, (Front Row L-R) Mac Gallehon, Nora McCarthy, Ricardo Torres, Jorge Sylvester, Al Patterson



ConceptualMotion Orchestra, 2019 El Taller Latino Americano Cultural Arts Center/Residency



“...Nora McCarthy believes in every word that she interprets. She has a powerful voice (check out her last note on “Restless Mind”), wrote all of the lyrics and arrangements for Blessings (including for McCoy Tyner’s “Passion Dance” and Ornette Coleman’s “The Blessing”), and also composed four of the ten pieces.

There are many fine solos heard throughout the set with the singer taking her turn next to the instrumentalists. The music includes moody ballads and heated romps. Nora McCarthy’s adventurous improvising is on a high level along with the intelligence of her lyrics, making *blesSINGS* one of her most rewarding recordings...” *Scott Yanow, L.A. Jazz Scene*

[Listen to blesSINGS](#)

Nora McCarthy
646-769-0740

BOOKING CONTACT:
mic.art productions@gmail.com

JAZZ
STANDARDS
LIVE

www.noramccarthy.com

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Nora McCarthy MIC~ART

Various NYC Live Performances

I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good

The Nora McCarthy Trio
Richard Clement-piano, Jeff Carney-bass
Metropolitan Room, NYC

Broken Kiss/Waiting For You Medley

The Nora McCarthy Qu'ARTet
Jorge Sylvester-alto saxophone
Pablo Vergara-piano, Santi DeBriano-bass
David Siliman-drums
The Jolly Madison Hotel, NYC

Doodlin'

Jazz Stories w/David Haney and Bernard Purdie
Nora McCarthy-voice, David Haney-piano
Adam Lane-bass, Bernard Purdie-drums
Steve Swell-tbone, Yael Archer-flute
Joe's Pub (The Public Theatre) NYC

Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow

Nora McCarthy HeartStrings Project
Andrew Green-guitar, Donald Nicks-bass
Kenny Grohowski-drums

I'll Be Seeing You

Jorge Sylvester ACE Collective
Nora McCarthy-voice, Jorge Sylvester-alto sax,
Marvin Sewell, guitar, Waldron Ficks-trumpet
Kenny Grohowski-drums
Will Connell Memorial Week, The Stone, NYC



More Info People of Peace Quintet



"...McCarthy's vocals often recalled those of another Cleveland vocalist, the great Jimmy Scott. All About Jazz, Matt Marshall

"...Her shaping of pitch often foregoes the fluid note-bending of the jazz singer in favor of the full press of a sculptor's touch against viscous clay." Ramsey Ameen/The Gathering Of The Tribes Magazine

"...McCarthy's vocals are rich and subtle and laced with varying degrees of earthy blues and soulful phrasings." Sounds of Timeless Jazz.com

"...You can hear this woman's life in her voice..." Walter Kolosky, Jazz.com

"...Nora McCarthy delivers with the improvisational intuition of Betty Carter and the compassion of Billie Holiday... She plays her tender voice like a musician trying to get the best out of some favored, old horn." Edward Hill/The Cleveland Plain Dealer

"... There are a number of gifted Jazz singers on this planet, but few truly sing from the soul, as Ms. Nora McCarthy! Talk about conviction! Talk about a beautiful, original vocal instrument! Talk about fire in the belly, but a gentility of subtle nuance. This defines Nora. She's not afraid to take a risk, explore human emotions that are real and not contrived." Steve Getz, Music Director/Talent Buyer and record producer, son of legendary tenor saxophonist, Stan Getz.

The Spiritual Path



to
finding
your voice

By: Nora McCarthy

Vocal Training Workshops Masterclasses

The Spiritual Path to Finding Your Voice™ is a comprehensive course that takes a conceptual, physical and spiritual approach to singing and improvisation whose primary focus is to free the spirit to experience total creativity through mindful singing.

It integrates thirteen essential elements I've determined are the building blocks to the overall development of the voice and the professional singer.



DISCOGRAPHY:

- Manna For Thought (RedZen Records™)-2018
- blesSINGS (RedZen Records™)-2016
- A Time For Love (RedZen Records™)-2013
- Spirit Driven (RedZen Records™)-2013
- In The Language Of Dreams (RedZen Records™)-2013
- Toward A Hill of Joy (Blue Unity Music) - 2011
- Circle Completing (RedZen Records™)-2009
- A Small Dream In Red (Sundown Jazz) (RedZen Records™)-2005
- red&blue (RedZen Records™)-1998