

# NORA McCARTHY TRIO

**Nora McCarthy – Voice**

**Marvin Sewell – Guitar**

**Jeff Carney – Acoustic Bass**

**(Special Guest Artist: Jorge Sylvester-Alto Saxophone)**

**Booking: [mic.art.productions@gmail.com](mailto:mic.art.productions@gmail.com) 646-769-0740**



## **Nora McCarthy**

A unique and original singer, poet, songwriter and innovative improviser, McCarthy is an important force in the advanced New York jazz scene since 1996 when she recorded her first of thus far nine CD's, red&blue with John diMartino, Essiet Okon Essiet, Alvester Garnett, Mike Lee and Sato Takeishi. Winner of the 38th Annual Jazz Station Awards Best Jazz of 2016 in two categories, Female Singer and The Best Vocal Jazz CD, blesSINGS, McCarthy's musical roots run deep. Her burnished alto voice is rich with a distinctive style that cuts a broad swath from soul, rhythm

& blues, jazz, Bebop, post-bop, and the free, avant-garde idioms but her sound is reminiscent of the great voices and horns in jazz.

Nora currently leads the following creative ensembles: The People of Peace Quintet, The Nora McCarthy OrganicTrio with guitarist Marvin Sewell and bassist Donald Nicks, The HeartStrings Project – performing the music of the most poetic singer/songwriters of the past fifty years, Nora McCarthy Qu'ART'et a modern jazz group rooted in tradition that melds original music with reimagined standards, A Small Dream In Red Expressionist Voice and Saxophone Duo, Manna For Thought Improvising Trio and The Modern Voice Ensemble – An experimental vocal group that implements McCarthy's concepts for composition and improvisation.

McCarthy is a member and co-founder of: ConceptualMotion Orchestra, a 20-piece all original music big band for which she contributes compositions and poetry; and a member of the following ensembles: the Jorge Sylvester ACE (Afro-Caribbean-Experimental) Collective and its Extended Edition w Strings (Double CD Spirit Driven recorded in Austria and released in 2013); Composer/Conductor/Trombonist, George Brandon's Blue Unity Ensemble – a CD Towards the Hill of Joy, was released in 2013. Nora was also a member of Conductor, Lawrence D. "Butch" Morris' A Chorus of Poets (2005-2010).

Nora has performed with many notable musicians over the span of her career, most recently drumming legend, Bernard “Pretty” Purdie as a featured vocal artist with his and pianist David Haney’s Jazz Stories at Joe’s Pub and also in trio with Jazz Legend Bassist Reggie Workman at the Middle Collegiate Church, NYC.

Nora graced the highly-coveted cover of the 2016 February/March issue of Jazz Inside Magazine as the featured artist. “What has impressed me about Nora McCarthy is that she is much more than a jazz vocalist—or specifically, a female jazz vocalist. She is a singer, she plays piano, she composes music and writes lyrics—comprehensive artistry in the grand tradition of someone like Carmen McRae or Betty Carter.” Eric Nemeyer, Publisher of Jazz Inside Magazine, 2016

Nora hosts a jazz radio show for Cadence Jazz World (<http://www.cadencejazzworld.com>) called, “Nora’s Jazz Show” featuring the music of creative jazz and avant-jazz, world jazz and both new and old works, established and emerging artists, musicians from around the world. Through her vast experience in the jazz and creative music field, Nora has developed a comprehensive 13-pronged approach to teaching voice, improvisation and career development. She is founder of, The Modern Voice Studio © and The Zen Of Singing...The Spiritual Path To Finding Your Voice ™ and currently teaches privately, conducts workshops, and master classes.

Nora is a teaching artist for the newly launched Medicine Show Theatre Arts & Education Program, NYC teaching her class in Vocal Freedom which focuses on improvisation and sound production for the creative vocal musician as well designing performance art classes for grade school children. She is the Project Director for a series of master classes taking place in the summer 2018.

\*A prolific lyricist, McCarthy has penned lyrics to dozens of jazz standards and countless other compositions by other artists including her own original music.

\*\*McCarthy' has written over 30 compositions some are tributes to: Billie Holiday, Miles Davis, Sonny Rollins, Grover Washington, and Jimmy Scott.

<http://www.noramccarthy.com>

## SPECIAL GUEST



### JORGE SYLVESTER

A unique innovator in the idiom of creative music, alto-saxophonist, conductor, composer, arranger, producer, Sylvester's sound is reminiscent of another time in jazz history when artists like Dolphy and Ornette were exploding on the scene and experimenting with concepts that would ultimately revolutionize music at large. Born in Colon, Panama he attended the Panama Conservatory of Music and the University of Panama. He received a Bachelor of Science in Music from the State University of New York College at New Paltz in 1981 and has toured Europe, Israel with the World Saxophone Quartet performing alongside

luminaries David Murray, Oliver Lake and Hammett Bluiett. In January, 2007, Mr. Sylvester returned to his native Panama as a member of the Panamanian All-Stars led and directed by pianist Danilo Perez at the fourth annual Panama Jazz Festival performing with Carlos Garnett, Santi Debriano, Billy Cobham and Renato Thoms. Mr. Sylvester's discography as a leader includes his recent releases *Spirit Driven* and *In The Language of Dreams* with vocal artist/composer/poet, Nora McCarthy on Red Zen Records™© and his highly acclaimed *In The Ear of the Beholder*, 2001 (Billboard's Spotlight, Feb. 2001) Jazz Magnet Records and MusiCollage Postcards, 1996, re-released on Arkadia Records) featured Claudio Roditi - trumpet, Marvin Sewell - guitar, Monte Croft - vibraphone - Gene Jackson - drums, Santi Debriano - acoustic bass and Bobby Sanabria - percussion. It received a \*\*\*\* rating from Downbeat Magazine and won a Billboard Critics' Choice award.)

<http://www.jorgesylvesteracemusic.com>



**Marvin Sewell** was born and raised in Chicago where he learned a variety of styles of music such as: Blues, Gospel, and Soul. Rock, Fusion and Jazz. He played with many famous Chicago musicians including Von Freeman and Ramsey Lewis. He moved to New York in 1990 and in 1992 began working with Jack DeJohnette's Special Edition. At that same time, he was playing with Jazz cellist Diedre Murray and Jazz Bassist Fred Hopkins. The following year he recorded albums with Jack DeJohnette, Diedre

Murray, and Gary Thomas. In his long illustrious career Marvin has performed and recorded with David Sandborn, Marcus Miller, Jorge Sylvester, Greg Osby, Joe Lovano, George Benson, Sekou Sanidiata, Peter Herborn, and Cassandra Wilson who he was with for over six years. Marvin co wrote the song, "Right Here, Right Now" with Cassandra. Before leaving Cassandra

Wilson, he was the music director of her band for a little over a year.  
<http://www.marvinsewell.com>



## **JEFFREY CARNEY**

is a renowned and versatile bass player who has been the accompanist to many jazz greats including but not limited to: Stan Getz, Art Farmer, Bobby McFerrin, Dewey Redman, Joe Henderson, Bobby Hutcherson, Freddie Hubbard, George Cables, John Abercrombie, Woody Shaw, Cedar Walton, Roland Hannah, Clifford Jordan, Mark Murphy, Andrew Hill, Famodue Don Moye, Eddie Henderson, Patti Austin and Barbra Streisand.

Jeff received his BM from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and currently is teaching at New School of Social Research, NYC; Stanford University, CA, and Rhythmic Concepts Camp, CA as well as privately.

His many recordings include several with guitarist Bruce Forman for Concord Records, "Full Circle", "There Are Times", and, "Pardon Me". Other recordings include: "Sasha Bossa" with Smith Dobson on Quartet Records; "End of the Open Road" with Ted Giola also on Quartet Records; "Concepts" with Mark Levine on Concord Records; and, "Sketches of Portugal" with Larry Dunlap for Cardoso Disco.

In addition to being one of the most sought after bassists on the music scene today, Jeff was a long standing member of the Broadway spectacular "Cats" orchestra.

Other performance include concerts at Carnegie Hall and festivals in the US, Europe, South America, Israel, the Netherlands and Asia