



Booking Requests & Info

These pages contains all the necessary information for booking Ellen Christi, Jazz Singer, Recording Artist, and Audio Programmer

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Hear Ellen's music and see her videos at : www.ellenchristi.com





Since the mid-seventies, Ellen Christi has steadily gained ground as an important contributor to American improvised music and contemporary jazz. As a composer/vocalist, Ms. Christi has worked in varying performance venues ranging from multi-media theatrical productions to solo vocal concerts. She has also been an active advocate in supporting innovative performing artists through organizations that she has co-founded or directed. Ms. Christi came to New York in the nascent period of the downtown loft scene. Jimmy Hopp was a positive catalyst introducing her to a musicians' collective at 501 Canal Street. And it was there that she lived and performed for many years with Tom Bruno, Ray Anderson, David Ware, Dave Burrell, and Coopermore.

Ms. Christi studied piano technique, composition, and arranging with Jaki Byard, an internationally acclaimed pianist/composer and a professor at the New England Conservatory of Music. She had studied the bel canto technique with Galli Campi, a coloratura singer with the Metropolitan Opera. Earlier on in her career, she studied vocal technique and movement with Jeanne Lee, an avant-garde jazz vocalist. Presently, Ms. Christi is working with vocal coach, Dr. Virginia Davidson, composer/conductor and founder of New York Treble Singers.

Ms. Christi was one of the co-founders of New York City Artists' Collective, a non-profit organization committed to developing creative independence for artist, fostering appreciation of visual and performing arts, and record documentation/ production (N.Y.C.A.C. Records). New York City Artists' Collective was housed at 501 Canal Street, one of prominent loft performance spaces of the 70's in Tribeca. She is also the founder of Network Records, an independent record label promoting contemporary jazz music.

She has received numerous grants and commissions from the New York State Council of the Arts and Meet the Composer as well as having received varied commissions for dance and theater performances throughout the years. Her most recent commission has been funded through the prestigious Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust. She is currently performing and teaching master classes in vocal technique/improvisation and movement throughout the United States and Europe.

Ms. Christi has been performing and recording with musicians in the United States and Europe for the past twenty five years. She has worked with; Tom Bruno, Ray Anderson, Mark Dresser, Andrew Cyrille, Reggie Workman, Rashid Ali, Tony Scott, Ed Blackwell, William Parker, Lisa Sokolov, Jeanne Lee, Kenny Wheeler, Steve McCall, Rahn Burton, Roy Campbell, Lawrence "Butch" Morris, and Hans Koch.

For the past twelve years, she has been collaborating with Fiorenzo Sordini, Claudio Lodati, Carlo Actis Dato, and Enrico Fazio in Italy. In Switzerland, she has been performing and recording with Thomi Hirt, Fritz Heigi, and Pit Gutmann of the trio, Illustrio. Currently she is working with Joe Gallant's Illuminati, a 22-piece ensemble. As well as performing and producing concerts with her present performing ensemble, Aliens' Talk. She is developing a world music project with Vincent Nguini of Cameroon. And the most recent recording project is with bassist, Habib Faye and balafonist, Babacar Konate of Senegal. A great portion of her time has been spent working as a producer for Bliss Corporation, a dance music production company in Torino, Italy.



New York Time

She sings with a clear, strong style, improvising with the phrasing of Albert Ayler.....And the intensity of John Coltrane.

Cadence Magazine

Christi is one of those singers who has no single style, at times she sports the experienced voice (and the same sort of sound) as Betty Carter, at times she sounds as if she is singing Art Songs, and at times she sounds as if she spends much of her time at home trying to find new sounds she can create. (**Vocal Desires**)

Forced Exposure

Ellen is at her underwater best, at times sounding like some kinda mermaid daring you (the dauntless maritime explorer) to come visit Davey Jones's locker. You peeps who are interested in exploring post-linear female vocals should pay Ellen Christi much heed and this release is not a bad place to begin. (**Dreamers**)

Ear Magazine

I find maturity of great style and grace, as well as a thematic structure that pervades the mix; a kind of musical impressionism that is a tour of Manhattan "tour de force". (**Star of Destiny**)

Spin Underground

On Star, Christi displays a wide load of stylistic jumbling, often changing voices several times inside a single tune. And the instrumental elements supplied by the trio she's playing with put this record's high points on a par with Jeanne Lee and Archie Shepp's work in the late '60's. (**Star of Destiny**)

Hartford Advocate

Is it possible to be a Diva in 1996? Christi answers that question by merging traditions of Betty Carter and Sarah Vaughan with the avant-garde. In these Knitting Factory crowd standards, Christi is like a vocal acrobat without a net - the results are both breathtaking and bizarre. (**Instant Reality**)



Education and Teaching

Singing is one of the most liberating and evocative methods of communication a person can experiment with. It transports the spirit to an altered space. It is a form of mediation creating calm in the body. It is the ultimate joy.

Teaching music gives me the opportunity to share in the joy. International residencies and master classes have been conducted in Italy, Switzerland, Germany, France, Senegal, and Brazil. I have, also, taught master classes at University Music Departments, Performance Centers, and Art Institutes in the United States. The master classes consist of studies ranging from: traditional bel canto techniques, vocal improvisation, sight singing, harmony, rhythm studies, vocal phrasing (scatting) over chord changes and modal structures, developing repertoire, interpreting jazz standards, arranging and personalizing songs, the study of songwriting (lyrics/poetry), and developing stage presence.

Technical and business aspects of performing and recording are studied: performance technique, vocal recording technique, digital music production and music software using Cubase and Logic, creating a press kit, and understanding social media as a publicity tool.

Private lessons are also available.

Ellen Christi is currently the director of Eclectic Arts and founder of Network Records. She has received grants and commissions from New York State Council on the Arts, Meet the Composer, and Mary Flager. She has taught master classes at New York University, Tufts, the New School, International Music Congress in Hamburg, Art Institute of Chicago, and ULEF Teaching Institute in Basel, Switzerland.