Marianne Solivan Biography

Short Version

A voice that is powerful & warm, strong & supple with the perfect touch of seduction. The ability to weave a story so well you get lost in it. A swing feel that will get you moving in your seats. And joy, enough joy to fill the room. This is what separates jazz vocalist Marianne Solivan form the rest.

Solivan has a way of making you her best friend when she sings. She gives so much to her audiences in her stories and laughter that you automatically feel at ease with her. She brings alive well-worn songs and introduces you to new material that feels like an old chestnut.

Her reputation amongst the Jazz elite in New York is second to none. She is a well-rounded musician that plays with the best and brings out the best in them all.

Her first two records both received high critical acclaim in both Downbeat & JazzTimes and her next record Re-Entry is sure to hit the top of the Jazz charts.

Solivan is a naturally gifted performer and vocalist who envelops the stage and gives so much of herself to the listener. She is a treasure and will only get better with time.

Full Version

Marianne Solivan is a highly respected and celebrated jazz vocalist, known for her dynamic range, expressive delivery, and fearless improvisation skills. With a career spanning over two decades, Solivan has established herself as one of the most talented and versatile artists in the contemporary jazz scene.

Solivan's passion for music began at a young age, and she later pursued formal education in music at Berklee College of Music, where she received a Bachelor's in Performance and Music Education. She then went on to earn a Master's in Jazz Studies from The New England Conservatory, where she sharpened her skills and developed her unique style.

Early in her career, Solivan began performing regularly at some of New York's most prestigious jazz clubs, including the Blue Note, Dizzy's, Smoke, and Birdland numerous times. Her powerful voice and commanding stage presence quickly caught the attention of critics and audiences, and she soon became a sought-after performer on the international jazz scene.

Over the years, Solivan has collaborated with many of the biggest names in jazz, including Christian McBride, Lewis Nash, Peter Bernstein, and countless others. She has also released several critically acclaimed albums, including Prisoner of Love, which features her own interpretations of jazz standards in NYC. The album is a series of

duos, trios, and quartet pieces that showcase the musical environments she has worked in for the last four years in New York.

Her second album, Spark, showcases more storytelling in efforts to reach bigger jazz audiences. Solivan's approach to music is rooted in her respect for the jazz tradition, while also being unafraid to take risks and experiment with new sounds and styles.

Solivan's live performances are a true display of her artistry, as she delivers each song with passion, precision, and an unmistakable energy. Her improvisation skills are a particular highlight, as she fearlessly explores the depths of each song, creating new melodies and harmonies on the spot.

In addition to her work as a performer, Solivan is also a dedicated music educator and mentor. She teaches vocal workshops and masterclasses both online and in person and is passionate about helping young musicians develop their skills and find their own unique voice. Solivan is a professor at Syracuse University's Setnor School of Music. At Setnor, Solivan works in the Jazz & Commercial Music program as a professor of voice. She works closely with her students through weekly voice lessons and classes. Together, Solivan and her students put on concerts for their peers. Through her work as an educator, Solivan hopes to encourage musicians to develop their own unique talents and create a supportive environment for the next generation of jazz musicians.

Solivan has also been featured in several major jazz publications, including JazzTimes, Jazziz, and DownBeat. JazzTimes describes her as "a voice that can be tender and sweet while still being strong and passionate."

Despite her many achievements, Solivan remains humble and grounded and is always striving to push herself to new heights as a performer and artist. She is committed to creating music that is both innovative and accessible.

As she continues to evolve as an artist, Solivan remains true to her core values of creativity, authenticity, and respect for the jazz tradition. With her powerful voice, boundless creativity, and deep commitment to music education, she is sure to continue making an indelible mark on the jazz world for years to come.