

CAROLINA BRANDES

VOCALIST, PIANIST, COMPOSER, ARRANGER, EDUCATOR, DANCER.

Carolina Brandes is born in Frankfurt-Germany.

She grows up and gravitates around the artistic environments of Rome, Berlin and Boston where she graduates at Berklee College of Music in **Jazz Vocal Performance and Jazz Composition**.

In the years she has established herself as an extremely successful and highly respected musical leader, vocalist, pianist, author, arranger. She has been defined from both peers and critic a **“Musical Architect”**.

Her voice is soulful, warm and sinuous but also dramatic and ironically irreverent. Her music is hard to classify; some attempts have been crossover, contemporary, electric jazz, avant-garde funk with captivating grooves and intriguing melodies enhanced by the charisma and personality of Carolina.

It is “Fusion” to be intended though in the most authentic and radical sense of the term, blending a variety of styles, ranging from Jazz to Funk, Gospel to Flamenco, Rap to Scat, Instrumental to Songwriting.

The cultural and musical cosmopolitanism is also evident in the lyrics: collages in English, German, Italian, French and Spanish, gifted with passional strength of commitment.

Finally, reutilising past excursions in the realm of theatre and dance, Carolina surpasses the traditional concert format to embrace the one of a show that delivers words and music in a coloured and playful fashion.

PERFORMER ACTIVITY

Since her project **“Red in Black”** she gathered some of the finest young musicians that soon after became worldwide known such as guitar sensation **Kurt Rosenwinkel** (endless awards, cover magazines, critics poll winner etc), drummer **Dan Rieser** (drummer for multi grammy winner Norah Jones), **Matthew Garrison** (son of the legendary Jimmy Garrison), grammy winner saxophonist **Donny McCaslin**, multi grammy award winner **Horacio “El Negro” Hernandez**, **Marvin Sewell** (highly acclaimed guitarist for multi grammy award winner Cassandra Wilson and Jack de Johnnette), **Thorsten DeWinkel** (Billy Cobham) to name a few. In a recent interview on legendary “Modern Drummer” magazine, **Marko Djordjevic** multi critics poll winner compared her to **Miles Davis**, for her amazing talent as a band leader and the resulting sound and compositions she would create.

Carolina Brandes-Bio

She won a prize as best vocalist and composer with a jury composed by among others, Jazz icons such as **Bob Moses** and **Jon Lockwood**.

She received an **Award by the City of Rome** for her debut CD “**O.M.P. (Original Musical Paint)**” for **outstanding musicianship**.

Her biggest, still ongoing project, is **O.M.P. (Original Musical Paint)**, an electric Big Band with whom she has toured extensively in **Italy**, around **Europe** and the **US** in all major **Clubs** and **Jazz Festivals** such as **Casa del Jazz**, **Jazz and Image**, **Ponza Jazz Festival**, **Alexanderplatz**, **La Palma Jazz Fest**, **Salumeria della Musica**, “**Valle Dolid**” **Madrid Festival**, **Ronnie Scott London**, **A-Trane (Berlin)**, **Zinc**, **Shapeshifterlab**, etc.etc.

The finest Italian musicians are part of this creative Collective: the amazing virtuoso drummer **Davide Pettirossi**, **Alex Gwis**, **Marco Siniscalco**, **Yavier Giroto** (all 3 eventually became part of the multi award winner band “Aires Tango”), **Peter de Girolamo**, **Pierpaolo Ranieri** (super requested rhythm section), **Aldo Bassi**, **Marcello Allulli**, **Enzo de Rosa** (horn section part of the National Italian Auditorium Big Band), vocalists **Desiree Petrocchi**, **Simona Rizzi**, **Cristiana Polegri** and **Reina Lopez** “**La Blanca**”, famous Flamenco dancer.

O.M.P. has had also an incredible success by all national media and critic. The finest reviews on the top Jazz magazines such as **Musica Jazz**, **Jazz Magazine**, **Jazz It**, etc. and has been followed attentively by top legendary journalists such as **Dario Salvatori**, who contributed in pushing her explosive boost. Radios have loved her latest single “**Silence Score**” inviting her for interviews on some of the most Italian popular networks, such as **Radio Citta’ Futura**, **Radio Citta’ Aperta** etc. etc.

Her latest video, “**Silence Score**” first single of her last **double CD** “**Flowers of the deeper soil**” has won several awards among them “**Ibiza Music Video Festival**”, “**Accolade Global Film Competition**”, “**Williamsburg International Film Festival**” etc. and has gained tremendous views on youtube way over 100.000 likes!

COLLABORATIONS

She has been part of “**Vocintransito**”, an **all female vocal Gospel ensemble** with whom she toured in all major churches, included the Vatican in front of the Pope and have been invited to an infinite series of National TV programs, most performances and appearances for charity.

Among others she has toured and recorded as Guest Star vocalist with **Italian drummer sensation Davide Pettirossi**, **Calimma** (the one and only officially acclaimed Reggae band in Italy), “**Haute Cadence**”, the first band in Italy following the English model of “**Acid Jazz**” with engagements in all major fashionable dance clubs Nationally.

Mr Tommaso Vittorini (acclaimed composer residing now in the US) has wanted her as a guest star for his **Big Band at prestigious National Teatro Eliseo** (first theatre to sponsor a Jazz Big Band on a steady gig).

Furthermore Miss Brandes has excelled as well in other areas of arts beyond music. Famous and eclectic **German Theatre Director Imogen Kusch** selected her for the Avant-garde piece **“Foraminiferi”** with many long runs at established Theatres such as **“Teatro Colosseo”** in Rome.

RECORDING

Carolina is an accomplished composer, arranger and vocalist.

As a band leader she has released 3 CD's.

“O.M.P.” recorded by **Mr. Davide Pettrossi (L'Oasi Productions)** and produced and released by **C.N.I. Compagnia Nuove Indie**, the most famous Independent Record Company in Italy.

The following 2 **“Flowers of the deeper soil”**, produced entirely by **L'Oasi production**. **“Attempt to a love song”** a song written and performed by Miss Brandes has been included as part of the official soundtrack of **“La Piovra”** one of the most followed TV fiction in Italy ever ...broadcasted all over the world.

She has recorded with **Mr. Carlo Siliotto** (multi Grammy Award winner) for many of his Film soundtracks among others.

With **Sasi Shalom** (accomplished NYC Film composer) she has recorded as a special guest on **“Ozymandias”**, winner of many music polls on legendary **“Downbeat”** magazine.

EDUCATION

Miss Brandes has taught in all major Music Schools in Rome and around Italy, such as **“Universita' della Musica”**, **“Saint Louis Music College”**, **“Percento Musica”**, **“Viva Musica”**, **“L'Oasi Music School”**, etc.

She further more has been the official assistant and translator for the Italian musical workshops held by **Berklee College of Music** in Perugia, during the world famous Festival and for **Manhattan School of Music** held in Venice.