

Lisa Thorson

lisathorson.com



ABOUT LISA

Known for her heartfelt renditions of standards and originals, vocalist, arranger, composer, educator, and recording artist Lisa Thorson brings a “grand...sassy and seductive” style to her music (Boston Globe). She’s performed internationally at festivals, clubs and concerts with her duo, quartet, and quintet.

The popularity of her quintet – composed of acclaimed performing and recording artists – can be attributed to their spirited kinship over 25+ years of working together. Tim Ray/piano, Cercie Miller/reeds, David Clark/bass and George Schuller/drums share the writing duties with her, creating music and arrangements that draw on the rich lexicon of jazz, giving a nod to the past and a look to the future.



“Our mission is to share musicmaking that has heart, soul, spirit, humor and originality,” Lisa says. “We want our listeners to be active participants in the live music experience; to breath, sigh, laugh, and tap their feet as we make conversation through adventurous music.”

*“What do I think of Lisa Thorson?
Sheila Jordan has a legacy.”*

- Lazaro Vega, Blue Lake Public Radio

PERFORMER

Over 35 years as a vocalist, recording artist, and actress, performing in concert halls, clubs, on radio, stage, film, and television.

EDUCATOR

Currently a Professor in the Voice Department, Berklee College of Music; winner of Berklee Distinguished Faculty Award. Over 25 years as a teacher, coach, and artist consultant.



CONTACT P: 617-515-6859 E: info@lisathorson.com

BIOGRAPHY

Lisa Thorson is a popular Boston based jazz vocalist, actress and music educator. She has performed at jazz clubs, on radio, on stage, in film and on television for over thirty five years. Legendary jazz vocalist Sheila Jordan calls Lisa “one of the most exciting jazz singers on the scene today”. She has toured throughout the U.S., Canada and Italy as a concert artist and jazz vocal clinician.



Lisa has released six jazz recordings as a leader. Her 2014 CD, ‘Lisa Thorson Quartet, LIVE’ is receiving unanimous critical acclaim and international airplay. Critic and writer Michael Nastos hailed “Resonance” her quintet’s CD on GM Recordings as “one of the very best musical offerings of the year, and an astonishing vocal document.”

Lisa received a BFA in Musical Theatre from the Boston Conservatory and a Master’s Degree in Jazz Vocal Performance from New England Conservatory. She is a Professor in the Voice Department at Berklee College of Music where she received the 2013 Distinguished Faculty Award. She has taught at New England Conservatory, Longy School of Music and Wellesley College. The National Endowment for the Arts, Berklee College of Music, and numerous public and private foundations have supported her creative performance and educational projects.

In addition to her work as a vocal and jazz educator, Lisa’s current projects include her jazz quintet, duo, Boswellmania: A Tribute to the Boswell Sisters, and JazzArtSigns®, a multi-media, multi-sensory event.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

“Lisa Thorson negotiates rhythmic and harmonic hurdles without breaking a sweat, her pure timbre and secure pitch making it all sound easy.”

- Jon Garelick, Boston Globe

“A gifted improviser of the most musical kind. She doesn’t sing songs. She sings music ... the best jazz singer I have heard in years.”

- Chuck Graham, Tucson Citizen

“ Always engaging, Lisa warm voice and superb musicianship blends with the instrumentalists with deceptively effortless ease...good music, well sung.”

- Bruce Crowther, Writer

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PERFORMANCES

VENUES

Blues Alley, Washington, D.C.
Scullers Jazz Club, MA
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.
Spencer Theater, NM
Tucson Jazz Society, AZ
University of New Hampshire, NH
Broward Center for the Arts, FL
The Music Hall, NH
Virginia Roberts Theatre, PA
Snug Harbor Cultural Center, NY
Concordia University, Quebec, Canada



“Lisa has one of the purest voices singing today. If it were a just world, she would be a star.”

- Steve Rubin, KZYX/KZYZ

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Boston Globe Jazz Festival
Sant’Elpidio Italy Jazz Festival and Workshop
Portsmouth Jazz Festival
First Nights Boston, Worcester, Portland and Providence
International Association of Jazz Educators Conference
Live on “Eric In The Evening,” WGBH-FM, MA

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