

DEE ALEXANDER



Dee Alexander is one of Chicago's most gifted and respected female vocalist/songwriters. Her talents span every music genre, from Gospel to R&B, from Blues to Neo-Soul. Yet her true heart and soul are experienced in their purest form through her performance of Jazz music. From a soft, sultry traditional ballad, to a contemporary Jazz-Funk groove; from a high flying swing, to a scat-filled romp, Dee Alexander delivers each style with a passion and love of music that comes across in each and every note, and with a style and grace that is truly her own. Some of her recent career highlights include the following:

2009 Chicago Jazz Festival – Dee Alexander and the Siren's Orchestra
2009 Tribute to Abraham Lincoln – Proclamation of Hope with Ramsey Lewis – Ravinia
2008 Hope in Action – Homage to Nelson Mandela with Orbert Davis and Chicago Jazz Philharmonic – Millennium Park
2007 Sirens of Song – Tribute to Nina Simone and Dinah Washington – Millennium Park Pritzker Pavilion
2007 AACM Great Black Music Ensemble Tribute to Fletcher Henderson – Millennium Park Pritzker Pavilion
2007 Jazz Institute of Chicago – Tribute to "Light" Henry Huff – Columbus Park
2007 Blue Room – Kansas City, Mo – Dee Alexander Trio with Dennis Winslett
2006 Sweet Rhythm NYC – Passing Thru with Oliver Lake
2006 Chicago Jazz Festival with Africa Brass Tribute to Malachi Thompson
2006 Exquisitely for Ella Tribute - Chicago Jazz Orchestra
2005 Millennium Park Jazz Series – Orbert Davis' Chicago Jazz Philharmonic Orchestra
2005 Mississippi Valley Blues Festival – Douglas Ewart's Inventions
2005 Chicago Jazz Festival - Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM) Great Black Music Ensemble

Besides being a phenomenal headliner in her own right, Dee has shared the stage with David Sanborn, Earl Klugh, Gerald Albright, Roy Ayers, Joshua Redman, and the O'Jays. Not being one to ever feel that the spotlight has to belong exclusively to her, Ms. Alexander has lent her considerable talents as a backup vocalist to the live performances of an array of many other well known artists i.e., Michael Manson, Michael Bolton, Phil Perry, Willie Clayton, and Zora Young and also performs with Ernest Dawkins' Chicgo 12, Douglas Ewart's Inventions and Nicole Mitchell's Black Earth and Harambee Projects. Dee has also formed the Evolution Ensemble which is an acoustic group that consists of string instruments and percussion with a strong emphasis on original compositions.

Internationally, In 2009 Ms. Alexander has performed at the Nîmes Agglo Jazz Festival, Carré Sévigné, Cesson-Sévigné, Rhino Jazz Festival, Espace Tival, Kingersheim, JazzOnze+ Festival, Lausanne Switzerland- Umbria Jazz Festival with Great Black Music Ensemble - Sons d'Hiver Festival in Paris France – Sirens of Song – Tribute to Nina/Dinah, 2008 United Nations Conference on Global Warming in Poznan, Poland – Sirens of Song – Tribute to Nina/Dinah, INNtöne - Jazz am Bauernhof Diersbach Austria with Ari Brown Quartet, Sons d'Hiver Festival in Paris, France with Ernest Dawkins' Chicago 12 and AACM's Great Black Music Ensemble "2007 and 2006 Made in Chicago Festival" in Poznan, Poland with Inventions, Maggie Brown, Evolution Ensemble and Nicole Mitchell's Harambee Project; Le Labbra Nude Jazz Festival with Nicole Mitchell's Black Earth Ensemble in Rome, Italy; Banlieues Bleues Festival 2004 in Paris, France with Douglas Ewart and Trio Inventions. She has toured extensively in Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Luxembourg and France with Sue Conway and the Victory Singers, and in Singapore and Holland with the Art Porter Quartet at the North Sea Jazz Festival.

Showing a limitless versatility, Ms. Alexander has performed with Muntu Dance Company of Chicago. Dee has been featured on various commercial spots, including Alno, McDonalds, Pert Plus, the Illinois State Lottery, Diet 7Up,

Pillsbury, Buick LeSabre, Commonwealth Edison, Dove, and Amoco. Ms. Alexander's television performances include WBBM Channel 2 2005 Portraits in Color; WTTW Channel 11 Check Please; WTTW Channel 11 Chicago Tonite with Phil Ponce; WTTW Going Home Gospel with Sue Conway and the Victory Singers featuring Patti LaBelle; WTTW Arts Across Illinois 2001 with Malachi Thompson's Freebop Band; and Bernie Mac's HBO "Midnight Mac" Special. Dee's partial discography includes featured vocals on Orbert Davis' "Blue Notes"; Corky McClerkin's "Island of Dreams"; R. Kelly's "Tp-2.com" and "U Saved Me/Happy People"; Brian Culbertson's "Secrets"; Malachi Thompson's "47TH Street", "Rising Daystar" and "Blue Jazz"; Lines and Spaces' "Shades of Brown", Dennis Winslett's "Soul Journey", "Dee Alexander Live at the Hothouse" and "Dee Alexander - Unplugged" and Rogueart 2008 Blissful. Dee's performance on the title track to "47th Street" was also released on the 2 CD set "Delmark Records, 45 Years of Jazz and Blues" featuring some of the best recordings from the company's rich jazz history. Ms. Alexander has also received the 2007 Chicagoan of the Year in Jazz Award and 2008 Jazz Entertainer of the Year by the Chicago Music Awards and was named the Best Singer of Chicago in July issue of Chicago Magazine. Ms. Alexander is also a member of the Chicago Chapter of the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM). Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago honored Dee Alexander as the 2009 Ayo Awardee for Outstanding Service to the Arts. In January 2009, Dee Alexander's CD "Wild As The Wind" was released on the BluJazz Label.

www.deealexander.net