

## Dena DeRose Short Biography

It's no small accomplishment to be thought of as "The most creative and compelling singer-pianist since Shirley Horn", but that's exactly how Joel Siegel of the *Washington City Paper* described Dena DeRose. If she comes to your city and you want to catch the show, go early, because the room is going to be packed. She not only awes her audiences and music critics with her facility on the piano and her swinging, soothing vocal style but, as Richard Scheinin (*San Jose Mercury*) aptly put it, "... she exudes joy ... what soul!"

DeRose always delivers "...vivid and often exciting demonstrations of how innovative her musical concepts are..." (Philip Elwood, *San Francisco Examiner*). She has brought that vitality and innovation to performances alongside the likes of Ray Brown, Clark Terry, Marian McPartland, Benny Golson, Scott Hamilton, John Scofield, Benny Green, Ray Drummond, Alex Riel, Deborah Brown, Jimmy Cobb, Ken Peplowski, John Clayton, Jeff Hamilton, Kenny Burrell, David 'Fathead' Newman, Sheila Jordan, Rufus Reid, Jay Clayton, Mark Murphy, Marvin Stamm, and many, many others.

As a recording artist, DeRose has 10 CDs as a leader to her credit, all of which have received superior accolades. Her newest, and second HighNote release '**United**' features **DeRose's longtime** rhythm section of Martin Wind and Matt Wilson with guests Ingrid Jensen on trumpet and Peter Bernstein on guitar. This CD hit the streets February 2016 and stayed on the radio playlists reporting to [JazzWeek.com](http://JazzWeek.com) for nearly 8 months, has been featured on many radio stations in Europe, and has garnered many excellent reviews by Downbeat, JazzTimes, JazzHistoryOnline, All About Jazz, The New York Record, and many other international jazz publications such as JazzIt, Podium, JazzHot, etc.

All of DeRose's recordings from Sharp Nine, Maxjazz, and now HighNote, have all received no less than 4 stars from Downbeat, she has continued to gain listeners around the globe, and has had many Grammy considerations for her work. Recently, her CD that had considerations was her previous HighNote recording "We Won't Forget You...An Homage To Shirley Horn" featuring her trio of 17+ years (Martin Wind and Matt Wilson) with special guests Eric Alexander, Jeremy Pelt, and Gary Smulyan.

Astoundingly, Dena has also found time to hone her skills as a Jazz educator, and in the past was on the adjunct faculty at some the most prestigious jazz institutes, including Manhattan School of Music, NYU, The New School, Long Island University, Purchase College in New York, The Hartt School of Music in Connecticut, and was on the faculty for 10 years at "New York Comes To Groningen" Prince Claus Conservatoire of Music in Holland. Ms. DeRose is currently tenured as the Professor of Jazz Voice at the Jazz Institute of The University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz, Austria.

She frequently leads clinics and workshops at such prestigious schools and festivals such as the Stanford Jazz Workshop, Centrum-Port Townsend Jazz, the Dave Brubeck Institute in Oakland, CA, The Jazz School in Berkeley, CA, Taller de Musics in Barcelona-Spain, the JEN, NJPAC Jazz for Teen Program, The Litchfield Summer Jazz Camp, the Rotterdam Summer Jazz School, and The Royal Conservatory of Music in Den Haag, among others. She has served as a first round judge at the Thelonious Monk Vocal Competition and served 6 years on the NJ Star Ledger Scholarship Awards committee.

Christopher Loudon of *JazzTimes* writes "...becalmed majesty escalating to vibrant exaltation...", and Chris Hovan of *All About Jazz* writes "Over the course of the dozen albums she has recorded since landing in New York in 1991, DeRose has consistently proven herself as a singular pianist and vocalist with a depth of scope that is really something to hear." The New York City Record's Ken Dryden review of 'United' wrote "Dena DeRose has grown into one of the most acclaimed pianist/vocalists in jazz during her two decades-plus as a professional."

<http://www.denaderose.com/index.php>

