

NICOLE ZURAITIS

Electronic Press Kit



photo credit:
robin benad

NYC BASED JAZZ SINGER/ SONGWRITER

Artist Biography:

"A Dynamite vocalist"
- drum legend CHARLI PERSIP
New York based vocalist and self-taught pianist Nicole Zuraitis, has been recognized as one of the most innovative, fresh and up-and-coming young artists in jazz today. At 25 years old, Nicole has debuted on the Main stage of the world-renowned Litchfield Jazz Festival and has opened for living jazz legend, Dave Brubeck, at Infinity Hall in Norfolk, CT.

She has also been blessed to perform with other living jazz legends Charli Persip, Dave Stryker, Rachel Z and Dolph Traymont.

With a love of all genres of music, Nicole received her Bachelor of Music from New York University in classical vocal performance, and has been pursuing a successful and diverse career ever since. In July 2008 she released her first jazz

album full of cherished classic love songs; *"Nicole Zuraitis; Spread the Word"*, featuring Luques and Zaccai Curtis as well as Winard Harper. She is currently producing her sophomore album.

"She has a smooth pure voice that makes one want to close their eyes so as to fully immerse themselves in the sensation of her voice."

-Tara Walsh MELODY TRIP

for recordings, videos, and photos:
www.nicolezuraitis.com



"This summer's fare features the debut of Nicole Zuraitis, a young singer with the potential to seize attention far beyond the tented grounds of Goshen....."

-OWEN MCNALLY
THE HARTFORD COURANT

photo credit left: antonio monteiro
photo credit right: steven sussman
both photos taken at the 2008 Litchfield Jazz Festival



THE NICOLE ZURAITIS GROUP:

Nicole Zuraitis: vox/piano, Jeff Miles: guitar, Dan Pugach: drums, Craig Akin: bass.

An avid singer-songwriter, Nicole's compositions bridge the gap between straight ahead jazz, contemporary r&b, indie and the blues. She is currently creating a new project to record of all her original music featuring her band for the past year: guitarist Jeff Miles, (1st place winner of the Montreux Jazz Guitar Competition in Switzerland), bassist Craig Akin, drummer Dan Pugach and freestyle artist Akil Davis. All band members work and live in New York City.

Nicole performs jazz at some of the top venues in Manhattan, including the Waldorf Astoria's Bull and Bear Restaurant, Club Macanudo, The Essex House, The Metropolitan Club and Per Se in Columbus Circle. She also performs a monthly residency at Ashford and Simpson's Sugar Bar.

Besides performing, Nicole is proud to be an educator and has been teaching jazz voice at the

Litchfield Jazz Camp for the past 5 years. She is also the songwriting instructor for Project Poetry Live, in association with Litchfield Performing Arts.

Other noteworthy accomplishments include 1st place in the NYC National Association of Teachers of Singing competition, CT Live Music Spotlight Featured Artist and a live television feature on News Channel 8 for her association with Jazz'd for Life.

Nicole is proud to play with her group and has also worked with Rachel Z, Charli Persip and his big band, The Curtis Brothers, Winard Harper, Don Braden, Hellen Sung, Dave Stryker, Lauren Sevian, Peter Madsen, Darren Litzie, Steven Riley, Julian Shore, Albert Rivera, Noah Preminger and Claire Daily, among others.

Facebook: [Nicole Zuraitis Music](#)
Youtube: [naz205](#)

What the critics are saying:

"Zuraitis must be training like a marathon athlete, because her voice was doing acrobatic leaps and flips across a sprawling vocal range. She was even comfortable scatting....She electrified the entire band!....Zuraitis pushed all the musicians to the next level."

-DAN BARRY HARTFORD ADVOCATE

"We caught Zuraitis at the Litchfield Jazz Fest this summer. One word - amazing."

-NBC. COM

"Zuraitis, a Litchfield Jazz Camp alumnus, has a beautiful voice and felt the love of the crowd. She crowned off her set at the piano, with a tender rendition of "What Are You Doing The Rest of Your Life" by Michel LeGrand. This was a captivating set. You'll hear more from her." -

-JAZZIMPROV MAGAZINE

"Young Zuraitis has unique leg up on the field with her lighter than air voice and her understanding and appreciation of the lyrics she is singing that seems to reach beyond her years...this is a singer we can enjoy now and keep an eye on for the future. Hot stuff."

-MIDWEST RECORDS

"A recent graduate of NYU, Nicole's powerful singing and unique piano style have made her an up-and-coming musician to watch" -GS NYC

"A sold out crowd turned out to hear the musical mastery of Nicole Zuraitis, Darren Litzie, Dan Pugach and Craig Akin. Each musician was wonderful in their own right and together they made beautiful music! Nicole's voice was fluid, delicately expressive and in perfect timing with the others....the audience gave the charming quartet a standing ovation after a truly wonderful performance."

-ANNE-MARIE CANNATA

THE MIDDLETOWN EYE JANUARY 2010

"Nicole Zuraitis is almost a local legend. Coming from Litchfield, CT, she is already making a name for herself well beyond our small state. This music was truly incredible... Nicole, who also teaches music, clearly has a special talent for drawing out the most and the best in others to compliment her own musical abilities. I really can't say it enough."

-DAN GABREE PEACE CAFE

"The young Ms. Zuraitis sang standards and some originals with compelling range, depth, and texture. Her final number, an arousing Blues, featured walk-on performances by Bobby Millitello from the DBQ plus Chris Brubeck on trombone, who just happened to be sitting in the audience."

-CATHERINE BRUBECK JAZZD FOR LIFE

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robin benad
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