

VOCAL JAZZ WORKSHOPS

MARCH 21-25, 2011
SEPTEMBER 12-16, 2011

STUDIO THEATRE
YUKON ARTS CENTRE



BROUGHT TO YOU BY A YUKON MUSIC INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP
JAZZ YUKON, MUSICYUKON AND THE YUKON ARTS CENTRE
WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE CULTURAL INDUSTRIES TRAINING FUND

ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS

This jazz vocal training and development initiative will engage capable female and male vocalists of any age in group sessions with some smaller group/individual attention over periods of five or ten days. Workshops will be held Monday through Friday, March 21-25 and September 12-16, 2011. Each of three groups has a 90 minute session at the same time each day.

You don't need to know anything about the jazz genre to get a lot out of and thoroughly enjoy these vocal workshops.

Through demonstration and lots of singing and 'hands-on' work, the workshops will explore vocal jazz fundamentals, vocal jazz styles (such as swing, bossa nova/samba/latin, jazz waltzes, ballads, and blues) working with selected jazz literature ('standards'), some of the basics (such as chart preparation, choice of keys, beginning and ending tunes, tempos, soloing), as well as use of microphones and working with a live band.

In addition, during each week of workshops, there will be a daily session on a specific topic offered on a more intensive, in-depth level. These topics will allow for demonstration, discussion, and singing/performing opportunities.

For novices, there are two one-hour "Introduction to Vocal Jazz" sessions on March 21 and 22. Depending on levels of interest, additional sessions may be held in September.

Registration for each of the separate sessions held daily may be limited to 15 participants. Vocalists may sign-up for one or more sessions daily during each of the weeks, or for both weeks, and/or you may register for one or more of the special topic sessions. The more you are able to participate, the greater the benefit.

WHO IS THE CLINICIAN?

Karin Plato is a vocal coach, performing/touring/recording jazz artist from British Columbia. She has a Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano & Voice from The University of Saskatchewan (1982), completed the commercial music program (composition & arranging) at Capilano College in North Vancouver (1985), and as a BC Registered Music Teacher (voice, piano, theory) has been operating a private teaching studio in Vancouver since 1988.

Karin has completed further jazz studies with vocalists Sheila Jordan and Jay Clayton at the Banff School of Fine Arts (1996 & 1998), with vocalist Nancy King and pianist Steve Christopherson in Port Townsend, Washington (2002 & 2003), and with vocalist Kurt Elling in Port Townsend, Washington (2005).

She was nominated for a Juno Award for her recording *There's Beauty In The Rain* (2000), twice nominated Canadian Jazz Vocalist of the year at 'The National Jazz Awards' (2003 and 2004), and nominated for a West Coast Music Award for her recording *The State Of Bliss* (2004). Karin has led several performance/workshops in schools and colleges while on tour with her ensembles in cities and towns in Canada. She has also taught the Art of Vocal Jazz for several years at the annual summer, week-long Swing Camp presented in Sorrento, British Columbia.

One or more Yukon jazz pianists, including Grant Simpson, Annie Avery and Andrea McColeman will be assisting Karin Plato with the workshop, March 21-25. Jazz pianists as well as professional rhythm sections (drums, bass and piano or guitar) will also be involved in the second workshop, September 12-16.

THE TWO WORKSHOPS

MARCH 21-15, 2011

BLOCK A

Noon – 1:30 pm (90 min at instructor's discretion), Monday – Friday

BLOCK B

4 – 5:30 pm (90 min at instructor's discretion), Monday – Friday

BLOCK C

7 – 8:30 pm (90 min at instructor's discretion), Monday – Friday

BLOCK D

10:30 – 11:30 am for Introduction to Vocal Jazz for Novice Singers on Monday
5:45 – 6:45 pm on Tuesday

A & B BLOCK SESSIONS, "VOCAL JAZZ FUNDAMENTALS"

These blocks will offer a similar vocal learning experience, although different music will be used to illustrate the different styles/repertoire in each session, making it fresh in the event some people wish to participate in both.

After a warm-up, the week's agenda includes a mix of jazz vocal technique, specifics of working with the jazz genre, different styles of jazz and the repertoire, the basics (charts, keys, working with a pianist, microphones, etc.) through a mix of demonstration, group and smaller group (and solo) singing and discussion.

There will be lots of singing working with the pianist from the 'get go' as a group. Following this, we break into smaller groups (3-4 people) to do things in front of the class with the pianist for the demonstration and exploration of certain concepts such as time, rhythm, expression, listening, reacting, etc. The group will work on developing repertoire, work on improvising ideas/exercises and work through singing (collectively and solo) on putting the concepts learned into action and some of the important repertoire for jazz vocalists.

Each day will likely feature a different style/feel within jazz, such as swing, bossa nova/samba, jazz waltzes, blues, ballads etc. Depending on the make-up of the group, the final session on day five may involve solo presentations with piano after previews of selected charts that would be discussed with the entire group so that everyone learns about what makes a good choice.

Depending on time available and level of the group, more songs and concepts could be explored. For everyone, while singing is integral to the workshop, listening and observing is an equally important aspect of learning and absorbing the content.

C BLOCK SESSIONS, "THE UMBRELLA OF JAZZ"

Each day a different topic is covered in an attempt to broaden people's knowledge and interest in particular areas of jazz music. All start at 7:00 pm except Thursday starts at 6:30 pm.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

Musicianship basics for vocalists: microphone technique, chart preparation, key selection, counting in a band, choices for ending a tune, deciding on style/groove for tune, plus Q&A from group.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Grooves under the "umbrella of jazz": swing, bossa, samba, ballads, shuffle, swing waltz, straight 8s, free/rubato includes repertoire development for jazz vocalists.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

The world of jazz vocalists: who to listen to, study from, also instrumentalists: who to listen to. Explore different ideas and methods for practicing the art of singing jazz.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Listening to live vocal jazz and the band: this session features a discussion to prepare participants for attending a live show featuring Emilie-Claire Barlow at the Yukon Arts Centre, as well as an expected opportunity to meet with Barlow and members of her band for a Q&A.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

The Great American Songbook: Memorable jazz standards by composers including Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Frank Loesser, Duke Ellington, Jerome Kern, Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen, Rodgers & Hart, etc.

SEPTEMBER 12-16, 2011

The scheduled sessions will be the same as for March 21-25. The agenda and format will generally follow and build on week one, with the introduction of work with a live rhythm section (drums, acoustic bass and piano or guitar). The content and approach may be adjusted based on the experience of participants and feedback from the March workshop.

The special topics for the additional daily sessions remain to be determined based in part on experience with the March workshop. Topics could include:

- The language of improvisation: the art of scatting, improvising, trading bars, creating solos.
- Vocal technique practices: how to work on vocal range, breath control, tone color exploration, singing "outside the box", working on ear training.
- Bebop & Blues & Beyond: Instrumentals for jazz vocalists: Dizzie Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk, etc.
- Workshop participants are welcome to make suggestions!

Depending on final scheduling and workshop enrollment, Karin Plato may entertain requests for private lessons or small group master classes during the September workshop, September 12-16. You may indicate your interest on the workshop application form.

D BLOCK SESSION: "AN INTRODUCTION TO VOCAL JAZZ" FOR NOVICES

There are two sessions of this workshop, both identical. After a vocal warm-up, participants will be led through a mix of demonstration and group singing for a taste of vocal jazz stylings and the literature.

VENUE & REGISTRATION

The workshops will be held in the Yukon Arts Centre's Studio Theatre. Parking is behind the Centre and you access the space from the rear Performer's Entrance. The adjacent Green Room will also be available. The Studio Theatre will be equipped with a grand piano, a portable sound system with five microphones for use by singers. A jazz-oriented pianist will be assisting Karin Plato throughout.

Audio samples, lyrics and charts of classic examples of vocal jazz, some of which may be used in the workshops, are expected to be available to participants on or before the application deadlines.

Bring water/water bottle and snacks to keep your energy up.

FEES

\$50 per person for Block A or Block B (five x 90 minute sessions = 7.5 hours).

\$10 per person per special topic session in Block C, excepting Thursday, March 24th. The fee for March 24 is \$16 for the special topic session and includes a ticket to the Emilie-Claire Barlow vocal jazz show. The Emilie-Claire Barlow concert is on Thursday, March 24 at 8 pm Yukon Arts Centre main stage, a co-production of the Yukon Arts Centre and Jazz Yukon (value \$32).

\$10 per person for "Introduction to Vocal Jazz" session.

Refunds may only be provided if notice of cancellation is received no less than 15 days before the start of the scheduled workshops in March and September.

TO REGISTER

It is not necessary for you to register for both weeks. You may apply to register for week one or week two, or both. Or you may register for one or more of the special topic sessions. You may wish to consider attending two or all three blocks each day for maximum benefit.

Applications are accepted at any time until these deadlines:

- For week 1 by 3 pm, Friday, March 4, 2011
- For week 2 by 3 pm, Friday, July 29, 2011
- Or, you may register now for both workshops by Friday, March 4, 2011.

A copy of this brochure and the application form may be obtained in person at:

- Dean's Strings & Music Supplies (3123 – 3rd Ave), Unitech Sound and Lighting, 2289 – 2nd Ave
- MusicYukon, 10 am – 4 pm, Monday to Friday at 509B, Jarvis St (alley entrance, 2nd floor)
- On MusicYukon website, www.music yukon.com under Workshops and Education heading for a downloadable copy or by emailing steve@music yukon.com.

Submit your application form with fees (cash or cheque) to Steve Gedrose at MusicYukon, as soon as possible and no later than the deadline. Early applicants clearly meeting the workshop criteria may be notified of acceptance sooner.

If you have questions, contact Steve Gedrose at Music Yukon by email at steve@music yukon.com, by phone 456-8742 or drop by their offices. Or contact Duncan Sinclair at Jazz Yukon by email at duncan.sinclair@jazzyukon.ca. Due to space limitations, it may not be possible to accommodate everyone who applies. Our objective is to notify you of acceptance no later than three days after the application deadlines. Fees paid at time of registration will be fully refunded to people who cannot be accommodated. Minimum enrollments are required for individual workshops to proceed.

VOCAL JAZZ WORKSHOPS APPLICATION FORM

Name _____

Postal Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____



WORKSHOP SELECTION

Block A, noon – 1:30 pm March 21-25 September 12-16
If Block A is not available would you consider Block B? Yes No



Block B, 4:00 – 5:30 pm March 21-25 September 12-16
If Block B is not available would you consider Block A? Yes No



Block C

- Monday, March 21, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Tuesday, March 22, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Wednesday, March 23, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Thursday, March 24, 6:30 – 10:30 pm (includes Emilie-Claire Barlow show)
- Friday, March 25, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

- Monday, September 12, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Tuesday, September 13, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Wednesday, September 14, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Thursday, September 15, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- Friday, September 16, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Block D

- Monday, March 21, 10:30 – 11:30 am
- Tuesday, March 22, 5:45 – 6:45 pm
- September dates to be determined

Total Fees

- ___ session(s) of Block A/B x \$50
- ___ session(s) of Block C x \$10
- ___ session of Block C, Thursday, March 24 with ticket x \$16
- ___ session(s) of Block D x \$10

Amount paid (for office use only): _____

Cash Cheque (Cheques payable to MusicYukon)

Are you interested in a private lesson or small group master class during the September workshop period, September 12-16?

Private Small group master class

Please describe your singing and music-related background and experience. Use back if needed.