

## Linda Presgrave

**Jazz Pianist, Composer, Arranger,  
Metropolitan Records Recording Artist**

Linda Presgrave, jazz pianist, composer, and arranger, relocated to New York City in 1998 leaving a very active music career in her native city of St. Louis. Her debut jazz CD as a leader, *In Your Eyes*, on METROPOLITAN RECORDS, was released nationally in April, 2000 and featured top jazz artists including John Stubblefield on tenor saxophone, Brian Lynch on trumpet, Cecil Brooks III and Wade Barnes on drums, Harvie S and Carline Ray on bass. May Of 2004, marked the date of Linda's second release on METROPOLITAN RECORDS with, *The Linda Presgrave Quartet - LIVE*. This CD features Linda's working New York jazz quartet and was recorded live during the group's year long engagement at the famed Warwick New York Hotel. 2006 marked the release of Linda's third CD on METROPOLITAN RECORDS, *The Journey*, which features the music of seven jazz musicians who happen to be women. The musicians featured on the CD include Linda's New York quartet along with famed jazz artists including Oliver Lake on alto saxophone and flute, Harvie S on bass and Eric Allen on drums. Linda is also featured on Metropolitan's 2006 holiday compilation entitled *A Jazz Christmas: That Special Time of Year* as well as on the 2008 compilation *Ballads in Jazz*. Her fourth CD on Metropolitan Records, entitled "Inspiration" will be released in the fall of 2008.

Linda has been a featured artist on three different dates on the stage of the prestigious JVC Jazz Festival, New York as a part of the International Women in Jazz Festival Special Event Concert with The Linda Presgrave Quartet (2000), as a member of the International Women in Jazz Ensemble (2003) and as a member of the International Women in Jazz All-Stars (2005).

December of 2003 marked Linda's European performance debut as the pianist with *Ritmi E Voci Dell'International Women in Jazz*, New York in Frascati, Italy as a part of the festival *ControCanto: Donne in Jazz* sponsored by *Fondazione Adkins Chiti: Donne in Musica*. She was invited back to Italy on the same series with her own group, *The Linda Presgrave Quartet*, performing once again at *Scuderie Aldobrandini (Frascati) 2004 & 2007*, at the University of Rome (Rome) 2004 and at *Casa Internazionale delle Donne (Rome) 2007*. In October of 2005, through *Donne in Musica*, Linda was invited to perform on the *Gala Concert: A Celebration of Women in Music* of the first ever *World Forum on Music* in Los Angeles.

In April of 2006, Linda's quartet was honored to be featured at *Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola* at the famed *Jazz at Lincoln Center* for five nights in the "After Hours" series for the release of ***The Journey***. In the summer of 2006, Linda was a featured jazz artist on the *VI. FESTIVAL INTERNATIONALDE MUSIQUE EN CATALOGNE* which took place in Ceret, France at Place Picasso and also in Le Boulou, France. Also during 2006, Linda performed with her quartet in St. Louis for two performances at *Cookie's Jazz and More* and also at *Washington University* on the *Jazz at Holmes Series*. In July of 2007, her quartet with Stan Chovnick on soprano sax, Wei-Sheng Lin and Seiji Ochiai on drums were featured at the prestigious New York jazz venue *The Iridium*.

Linda also serves as the pianist in Carol Sudhalter's Astoria Big Band which was featured on the acclaimed *Mary Lou Williams Jazz Festival* at the *Kennedy Center* in Washington D.C. in May of 2004. Linda recorded with the same group on ***Last Train to Astoria*** on the Carolina Records label. Also In 2004, Linda recorded with the *Acme Brass Co.* on ***X-mas Xing***. In 2005, she was the pianist for jazz vocalist Debbie Gifford's recording ***So Many Songs About Love*** which features some of New York's finest recording artists including Allison Miller on drums and Harvie S on bass. As an active member of the *International Women in Jazz* Linda has accompanied many outstanding women jazz vocalists in performances at famed New York jazz clubs including the *Cornelia Street Cafe* and *Detour* as well as at *Saint Peter's Church* ("The Jazz Church"). She also now holds the piano chair in the Blue Nitrous Big Band.

Before arriving on the New York jazz scene, Linda performed with her own group, After Six Jazz, at the finest jazz venues in St. Louis including *Jazz at the Bistro* and *Just Jazz*. At the same time, she worked with the Sessions Big Band, the Modern Vintage Jazz Quartet and the Kim Portnoy Jazz Orchestra. As a former professional French Horn player, she performed regularly at the *MUNY*, *FOX* and *RIVERPORT* theaters in orchestral settings behind top entertainers, world class ballet ensembles and national theatrical productions.

*"Linda Presgrave is truly a discovery who is pouring her heart into her first recording of national distribution."*

~**Don Williamson - 52nd Street Jazz**

*"The St. Louis transplant Linda Presgrave, a probing, resourceful mainstream pianist with an impressive debut album, *In Your Eyes*, prowls the bebop landscape for all the stylistic diversity it can offer."*

~**The New Yorker**

*"With her lyrical playing and a stellar ensemble, Presgrave adeptly mines the secular and spiritual side of the music while paying homage to her heroines."*

~ **Terrell Holmes - All About Jazz/New York**

*"She (Linda Presgrave) tells beautiful stories in the music she writes"*

~ **John Stubblefield (Saxophonist)**

## Discography

### **LINDA PRESGRAVE (JAZZ PIANO) as a leader**

*" Ballads in Jazz" - MR 1127 (2008)*

*"A Jazz Christmas: That Special Time of Year" - MR 1125 (2006)*

*" Linda Presgrave - The Journey" - MR 1124 (2005)*

*" The Linda Presgrave Quartet - Live" - MR 1123 (2004)*

*" Linda Presgrave: In Your Eyes" - MR 1120 (2000)*

## Major Jazz Performances (Jazz piano)

IRIDIUM JAZZ CLUB (2007)

DIZZY'S CLUB COCA-COLA: JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER (2006) WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY (St. Louis): JAZZ AT HOLMES SERIES (2006)

FONDAZIONE ADKINS-CHITI: DONNE IN MUSICA: Frascati & Rome Italy

The Linda Presgrave Quartet - *ControCanto: Donne in Jazz* - Dec. 2004 & 2007

*Int. Women in Jazz (IWJ) Ensemble - ControCanto: Donne in Jazz* -Dec. 2003

VI. FESTIVALE INTERNATIONALDE MUSIQUE EN CATALOGNE: Ceret, France & Le Boulou, France (2006)

WORLD FORUM ON MUSIC: Los Angeles, CA

*Gala Concert: A Celebration of Women in Music* - October 2005

MARY LOU WILLIAMS JAZZ FESTIVAL: Washington D.C.

Carol Sudhalter's Astoria Jazz Band - May 2004

JVC JAZZ FESTIVAL, NEW YORK: New York, NY  
*International Women in Jazz All-Stars* – 2005 (Macy's Kick Off Concert)  
*International Women in Jazz Ensemble* – 2003 (IWJ Special Event Concert)  
The Linda Presgrave Quartet – 2000 (IWJ Special Event Concert)

WARWICK HOTEL: New York, NY  
The Linda Presgrave Quartet – August 2002 – June 2003