

Nicole Metzger **Jazz**
Singer

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BIOGRAPHIE NICOLE METZGER

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FIRST MUSICAL STEPS

I started my musical career at the age of nine with a classic music guitar training.

At the age of 15, I started my first musical project and can be heard as the lead singer in many different bands.

In 1986 I met the well-known opera soprano and voice trainer, Brigitta Seidler-Winkler, where I first heard about voice training. During my voice training with Mrs. Seidler-Winkler, I was also trained in singing-pedagogy to become a singing teacher.

MY MUSICAL-YEARS

In 1988, I began a 5-year Musicial study course with the "American Performing Arts Company" and the Musical School in Frankfurt.

In 1993, I completed my studies with production testing my stage effectiveness before the Examing Board. During my studies, I won the third place in a Federal Singing Contest set up by the VDMK in 1991

After my education, I was given many engagements in musicals such as "The Man from La Mancha" or "Little Shop of Horrors" at home and abroad.

At the same time I continued to work as a singer in the Blues-, Gospel-, but most of all the Jazz-scene. In addition, I was the lead singer in the "Wolf-Kaiser-Big Band" for the next 10 years, with whom I performed at dance competitions and gala events throughout the whole of Germany.

MY JAZZ

In 1995, I concentrated completly on my greatest passion – Jazz. In the same year I founded a jazz quartett with Christoph Mudrich /piano, Dirik Schilgen/drums, Johannes Schaedlich/bass and took part in Jazz Festivals in Worms, Düsseldorf and Vannes (Bretagne) In 1997 our debut album come out – "Nicole Metzger sings Gershwin" which was enthusiastically recieved not only by the general public but also by the critics.

In 1999 the Quartett recorded the CD "We and the Night and the Music" on which the Belgian trombonist Phil Abraham also played a part.

In December 2001, the Nicole Metzger Quartett inspired their fans, with their expressive Christmas-CD "Merry X-mas" and every year

BOOKING

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from then on, we have continued to our fans with an evocative Christmas programme.

2004 the Nicole Metzger Quartet were to be seen with their "Four Seasons"- programme with a new cast on stage. Four top-class brass-players were with them: the Luxemburger trompeter Ernie Hammes, the Belgian trombonist Phil Abraham, also from Belgium the saxophonist Fabrice Aleman and the German saxophonist Frank Spaniol from Berlin.

In 2005, Nicole Metzger Quartett´s last joint project came out A "Cole-Porter"- programme only with compositions of this great American songwriter

In 1999 Ralph Schweizer engaged me for a performance together with the "Ralph Schweizer Big Band". In March 2002, our first CD "Day Dream" came out as homage to Duke Ellington. The Big Band swunged in the traditional sound at regular performances throughout Germany.

In 2000, I met the guitarist Wesley "G" with him I share my love of melodic jazz and our role models Ella Fitzgerald and Joe Pass. Together, we worked on several duo productions, that you can hear live on stage.

In March 2006 we won the international duo competition "Voice and Guitar" in the town of Völklingen.

In October 2004 Wesley "G" and I met the French jazz musicians, Jean-Yves Jung (jazz organ) and Jean-Marc Robin (drums). Together we formed the group "French Connection"

In 2002 the famous American string bass player, Joe Fonda invited me to give our first concert together in New York. Together with Fonda, Michael Stevens (piano) and Harvey Sorgen (drums), I recorded the CD "At Any Other Time" there in August 2002. It contained their own compositions as well as standard songs. Since then I have regularly toured with the other three musicians through the US and Europe.

In 2005 I founded my new quintett "NM 5" with Keith Copeland on drums, Jean-Yves Jung on the piano, Wesley "G" on the guitar and Rudi Engel on the double bass. In October 2007 our debut album came out with the title "Second Take" that was enthusiastically received by the general public and critics alike. Directly after followed a CD release tour in the winter of 2007. This group can be seen and heard live on stage everywhere.

In 2006 Lindy Huppertsberg, a double bass player, invited me as a guest to give a solo performance at a concert with her trio

"Witchcraft" comprising of the Brazilian Angela Frontera (percussion/drums), and the Kasachstan pianist Yelena Jurayeva. Four powerful women became a new group project.

In February 2007, I gave my first concert with the professional Big Band "Kicks and Sticks" on the stage at the Alte Feuerwache in Mannheim.

Other gigs together will certainly follow and are planned for the near future.

Since 2008 the guitarist Wesley "G" and I have concentrated on our duo "Body & Soul". We have traveled through Germany, can be heard with our new programme in Brandenburg or in Berlin at "Jazz in den Ministergärten".

We are currently working on our new duo-CD.

Exactly to coincide with our 10-year-anniversary of "Body and Soul", we published our new CD in July 2010 giving it the same title. With the trio with the double bassist Rudi Engel as "NM3" and the double bassist Lindy Huppertsberg as "12 Strings" we have been on tour performing the Rheingau-Festival and at the Jazzdays in Worms-Monsheim.

In 2009 together with my "French Connection" (Jean-Yves Jung on piano, Jean-Marc Robin on drums and Rudi Engel playing the double bass) we presented our new programme "Hymne à l'amour" on stage. In this programme we formed a bridge between the two forms of music, Jazzstandards and Chanson. As a special guest, we invited the accordionist Marcel Löffler from Strassburg who not only feels at home in the fields of Jazz and Chanson but also Tango, as a musician and as a composer.

After a successful tour through Europe in December 2010, I recorded with my "New-York-Connection" our new CD titled "That's what I want to do" in Cologne. On this CD you can hear our own compositions which Stevens, Fonda and myself exclusively produced. This new programme was presented on our tour in March 2011 which equally enthralled our audiences and critics.

In October this year our tour will take us through the USA and in May 2012 we will once again tour together through Europe.

MY WORK AS A LECTOR

From 1993 to 1998, I worked as a singing teacher for jazz, rock and pop music at the City Music School in Ludwigshafen.

From 1995 to 1997 I worked as a junior lecturer for jazz and pop singing at the City Music School in Ettlingen.

Since 1998 I have been a lecturer for jazz, pop and musical songs in Neustadt/Weinstraße.

From 2002 to 2005, I was employed as a lecturer for music and songs at the yearly "Jazz-Workshop" in Sulzbach (Saarland).

In addition I have also been a lecturer at the "Freinsheimer Jazz Work Shop" (Pfalz)

Since 2003 I have worked as a visiting lecturer with the topic "Pop-Music for Church musicians" at the Federal Akademie in Trossingen.

Every year since 2005, I have offered together with Gerd-Peter Murawsky a "Pop-work-shop" at the Landesmusik-Akademie, Pfalz in the summertime.

Also I organize workshops myself for jazz and pop singing. Since 2004 I have held regular work-shops for jazz and pop with the emphasis on singing techniques, breaks for breathing, improvisation and scat-singing, text analyses/interpretations and working with a microphone at weekends. In addition at these AWAS-Workshops are two lecturers; Gerd-Peter Murawski (musictheory) and Daniel Jakobi (rhythmic /bodypercussion).

Together with guitarist Wesley "G" I offer special jazz-workshops for duo´s (singing/guitar or singing/piano) with emphasis on improvisation/scat-singing.

Further information is available on the web-site under "dates"and "workshops."