

Reviews of Jennifer Scott

Scott has set herself apart from the jazz-vocalist pack with her mesmerizing renditions of the most unlikely tunes ... With her warm, flexible contralto, Scott brings a striking emotional intelligence to everything she sings, no matter what the context. As much a song stylist as an improviser, she puts her stamp on material through her supple sense of swing and deft, slippery phrasing.

- **Andrew Gilbert, *The Seattle Times***

She applies a velvet tone and superb phrasing to material including Joni Mitchell, the Beatles, Brazilian tunes and jazz standards.

- **LA Times Calendar's Calendar**

This voice immediately arrested my hearing and said, 'Wake up, listen up, sit down, and listen to this lady 'til she's finished singing.' A very pure, a very flexible voice--a voice made to sing jazz ... Jennifer Scott definitely has great time and a very flexible voice.

- **Katie Malik, *CBC Jazzbeat***

Vancouver vocalist/pianist Jennifer Scott...(is) a force of nature, an artist unafraid to take risks. Her big, warm contralto sounded in top form on Charlie Chaplin's "Smile" and an up-tempo version of "Just In Time" that climaxed with several thrilling scat choruses. Most audaciously, she transformed Lesley Gore's hit "It's My Party" into a tortured torch song. Scott is the kind of singer who you want to tackle your favorite songs, just to hear what she might do with them.

- **Andrew Gilbert, *JazzTimes.com***

She's one of the best female vocalists I've had the pleasure of hearing in a long time (with terrific jazz, blues and pop ballads, plus tasty scat singing abilities)

- **Maev Brennan, *Kelowna Capital News***

*Throughout *Something to Live By* Scott exhibits her versatility, range and purity of tone.*

- **Marke Andrews, *Vancouver Sun***

We're talking about gorgeous tone and absolutely killer technique

- **Renee Doruyter, *Vancouver Province***

Jennifer Scott has what it takes; a pure and beautiful sound, talent and 'jazz ears

- **Marian Gilmour, *DuMaurier Jazz Festival***

Review of Miles Black and Rene Worst

It was a warm summer night in Vancouver when I made my way to Kitsilano, and down the stairs to the cool candle-lit atmosphere of The Cellar. It is one of Vancouver's few jazz clubs, and it's evident that both the owners and the patrons take their jazz seriously.

I was there to enjoy a night of piano jazz presented by MusicFest. The Cellar filled with people as the band, consisting of our very own Miles Black on piano, and Rene Worst on upright bass, set up their instruments. They have been working together for upwards of 20 years, on projects such as the Juno-nominated fusion band 'Skywalk', and their history is evident through the way in which their music comes together with fluid ease.

Their first set played on a range of emotions; taking us from the melancholy, yet powerful, She Walks Alone to the upbeat Sancho, forming images of stolen kisses on sweet summer nights. Perhaps one of my favourites was the last song in this first set; a fast blues number called Tiptoe. I felt that it stood out nicely from the other pieces, and showed the musician's range of ability.

The second set provided us with a tour through their progression as musicians together. They mixed up pieces from their new CD, Escorial, with songs such as Larger than Life which they hadn't played for years. We were even treated to the beautiful Clouds of Magellan, which is yet to be recorded.

What really stood out for me was the silent attentiveness of the audience. It was as if they were all in this dream state, where music, food and wine came together in unique synchronicity. The only visible movement of anyone seemed to consist of toes tapping under the tables, arms reaching for glasses, and eyes closing, shutting out all but the music. It's amazing how jazz enthusiasts, whether they be musicians or not, often have this certain look to them, as if jazz is the only language they truly understand.

Black and Worst are jazz musicians with some amazing talent, who we can be proud to say are considered Canadian legends in the field of jazz music. My suggestion to those piano jazz fans out there is to check out either of these musicians, either online or at a future event here in Vancouver.