

# RACHEL CASWELL, Jazz Vocalist

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## ACADEMIC DEGREES:

### **Master of Music with Academic Honors and Distinction in Performance**

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC – Boston, MA, 1998

Major: Jazz Voice

### **Bachelor of Music with High Distinction**

INDIANA UNIVERSITY – Bloomington, IN, 1995

Double Degree: Cello Performance and Jazz Studies

## PRIVATE STUDY:

<i>Jazz</i>	<i>Classical</i>	<i>Jazz Coachings</i>	
Dominique Eade, <i>Voice</i>	Brian Horne, <i>Voice</i>	Benny Golson	Danilo Perez
Carol Sloane, <i>Voice</i>	Kathleen Kaun, <i>Voice</i>	Jimmy Heath	George Garzone
David Baker, <i>Cello</i>	Carol Smith, <i>Voice</i>	Barry Harris	Mulgrew Miller
Luke Gillespie, <i>Piano</i>	Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, <i>Cello</i>	Clark Terry	Sheila Jordan
	Helga Winold, <i>Cello</i>	Billy Taylor	Jay Clayton

## SPECIALIZATIONS:

- Development of the solo jazz voice
- Improvisation / scat
- Song interpretation and repertoire development
- “Great American Songbook”
- Incorporation of vocalists into jazz combos

## PEDAGOGICAL EXPERIENCE – PRESENTATIONS, MASTER CLASSES, WORKSHOPS:

- Judge / guest artist, Bloomington Jazz Festival, *Bloomington High School North* – Bloomington, IN, 2014
- Judge / guest artist, Boise State Vocal Jazz Festival, *Boise State University* – Boise, ID, 2013
- Master Class, *University of Arkansas at Little Rock* – Little Rock, AR, 2012
- Jazz Choral Judge and Vocal Clinician, Clark Terry Jazz Festival, *University of New Hampshire* – Durham, NH, 2011
- Master Class, *Boyer College of Music & Dance, Temple University* – Philadelphia, PA, 2011
- Careers Q&A & Vocal Improv Workshop, *Lamont School of Music, University of Denver* – Denver, CO, 2011
- Performer / presenter on jazz voice, music appreciation courses, *Indiana University* – Bloomington, IN, 2003-2009
- Clinician, *Bloomington Jazz Festival* – Bloomington, IN, 2000, 2002, & 2008
- Clinic, *Hope College* – Holland, MI, 2008
- Guest lecturer on jazz voice, *Union Theological Seminary* – New York, NY, 2007
- Clinic, *Concordia College* – Moorhead, MN, 2005
- Master Class, *Vassar College* – Poughkeepsie, NY, 2004
- Clinic, *Indiana State University* – Terre Haute, IN, 2004
- Master Class, *MacMurray College* – Jacksonville, IL, 2002
- Improvisation seminar, *East Coast A Cappella Summit* – Cambridge, MA, 1999
- Featured Artist and Contributor to *John McNeil’s Jazz Series on Video, Vol. 3 Vocal Jazz: Learning to Scat* also featuring Rufus Reid on bass, anticipated release date unknown

## VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE EXPERIENCE:

- Post-graduate study: *Methods and Materials for Teaching Vocal Jazz* – Dr. Patrice Madura Ward-Steinman, Indiana University, 2014
- *Drawn to Scale* – a cappella vocal jazz sextet, soprano & musical director, 1998-1999
- *New England Conservatory Vocal Jazz Ensemble*, Dominique Eade, Director – Boston, MA, 1996-1998
- *Phil Mattson Vocal Jazz Workshop* – Creston, IA, 1994

## RECORDINGS:

### SOLO PROJECTS

- *All I Know: Duets with Dave Stryker & Jeremy Allen* (2015)..... Turtle Ridge Records, TRR-002  
MUSICIANS: Rachel Caswell, *vocals* • Dave Stryker, *guitar* • Jeremy Allen, *bass*  
PRODUCER: Dave Stryker  
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: Rachel Caswell  
LINER NOTES: Thomas Cunniffe
- *Some Other Time* (2003)..... Rachel Caswell, RNC1001  
MUSICIANS: Rachel Caswell, *vocals* • Lynne Arriale, *piano* • Kelly Sill, *bass* • Steve Davis, *drums* • Sara Caswell, *violin*  
PRODUCER: Rachel Caswell  
LINER NOTE CONTRIBUTORS: David Baker • Ingrid Jensen • Lynne Arriale • Dominique Eade

### CO-LED PROJECTS

#### Caswell Sisters featuring Fred Hersch

- *Alive in the Singing Air* (2013)..... Turtle Ridge Records, TRR-001  
MUSICIANS: Rachel Caswell, *vocals* • Sara Caswell, *violin* • Fred Hersch, *piano* • Jeremy Allen, *bass* • Bryson Kern, *drums*  
PRODUCERS: Rachel & Sara Caswell  
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: Fred Hersch  
LINER NOTE CONTRIBUTORS: John Clayton • Fred Hersch • Sara Caswell • Rachel Caswell

### FEATURED ARTIST

#### Sara Caswell

- *But Beautiful* ..... Arbors Records, ARCD19304
- *First Song* ..... Doubletime Records, DTRCD-166

## PERFORMING GROUPS:

- *Caswell Sisters Quintet*: Rachel Caswell, vocals, Sara Caswell, violin, co-leaders with rhythm section, 2000-present
- *Rachel Caswell Quartet*: Rachel Caswell, vocals with rhythm section, 1995-present
- *Rachel Caswell-Dave Stryker Duo*: Rachel Caswell, vocals and Dave Stryker, guitar, 2014-present
- *Rachel Caswell-Jeremy Allen Duo*: Rachel Caswell, vocals and Jeremy Allen, bass, 2004-present

## **SELECTED PERFORMANCES:**

### **CLUB DATES (1995-PRESENT):**

- *The Bar Next Door* – New York, NY
- *Shapeshifter Lab* – Brooklyn, NY
- *An Die Musik* – Baltimore, MD
- *The Jazz Kitchen* – Indianapolis, IN
- *Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at Jazz at Lincoln Center, After Hours Sets* – New York, NY
- *Blue Wisp Jazz Club* – Cincinnati, OH
- *Cornelia Street Café, Gnu Vox Vocal Series* – New York, NY
- *The Press Room* – Portsmouth, NH
- *Acton Jazz Club* – Acton, MA
- *Chatterbox Jazz Club* – Indianapolis, IN
- *Bear's Place* – Bloomington, IN

### **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PERFORMANCES:**

- Caswell Sisters, Opening Night Concert, Inaugural *Jazz Education Network (JEN) Annual Conference* – St. Louis, MO, 2010
- Rachel Caswell-Jeremy Allen Duo, *International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE) Annual Conference* – New York, NY, 2006
- Caswell Sisters, *The Midwest Clinic Annual Conference* – Chicago, IL, 2004
- With John Blake, Jr. and Sara Caswell, *International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE) Annual Conference* – Toronto, ON, Canada, 2003

### **COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY ARTIST SERIES CONCERTS (2000-PRESENT):**

- *Boise State University, Jordan Ballroom* – Boise, ID
- *Temple University, Jazz at the Underground* – Philadelphia, PA
- *University of Denver, Lamont School of Music, Jazz Night* – Denver, CO
- *University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Artspreet Concert Series* – Little Rock, AR
- *Hope College, Guest Artist* – Holland, MI
- *Vassar College, Artist Series* – Poughkeepsie, NY
- *University of Evansville, Jazz Guest Artist Series* – Evansville, IN
- *DePauw University, Artist Series* – Greencastle, IN
- *West Virginia State University, Artist Series* – Charleston, WV
- *Emory University, Jazz Festival* – Atlanta, GA
- *Indiana University Southeast, New Discovery Series* – New Albany, IN
- *Eastern Illinois University, Chamber Music Series* – Charleston, IL
- *Bethany Lutheran College, An Evening of Jazz* – Mankato, MN
- *Indiana State University, Jazz Artist Series* – Terre Haute, IN
- *MacMurray College, An Evening of Jazz* – Jacksonville, IL

### **ADDITIONAL CONCERT SETTINGS:**

- IVCI 2013-2014 Laureate Series, *Indiana Landmarks Center's Cook Theater* – Indianapolis, IN
- Grant Street Jazz Festival – Bloomington, IN
- FestivALL 2011, *Culture Center Theater* – Charleston, WV
- Jazz in July Concert Series, *IU Art Museum* – Bloomington, IN
- Jazz Cabaret Series, *Kentucky Center for the Arts* – Louisville, KY
- Hoagy Carmichael Festival, *Buskirk-Chumley Theater* – Bloomington, IN
- String Theory Concert Series with Sara Caswell, *Symphony Space* – New York, NY
- IU Summer Music Festival with Sara Caswell Quartet, *Auer Hall* – Bloomington IN
- Opened for Danilo Perez with Sara Caswell Quartet – Bloomington, IN
- With Curtis Fuller, *Jordan Hall* – Boston, MA
- With Billy Taylor Trio at Jazz Aspen/Snowmass Festival – Snowmass, CO
- With Ingrid Jensen, *Bear's Place* – Bloomington, IN

**PERFORMANCES WITH BIG BAND:**

- Caswell Sisters with the IU Jazz Ensemble directed by Brent Wallarab, *Bloomington Jazz Festival* – Bloomington, IN
- Caswell Sisters with the JazzMN Orchestra, *Hopkins Performing Arts Center* – Minnetonka, MN
- Caswell Sisters with the Jazz Arts Group Big Band, *North Dakota State University* – Fargo, ND
- Caswell Sisters with the Bloomington H.S. North Jazz Ensemble, *Indiana Music Educators Association (IMEA) Regional Convention* – Indianapolis, IN
- With The Glenn Miller Orchestra, *Bearcreek Farms* – Bryant, IN
- Guest Soloist, IU Jazz Ensembles, *Indiana University* – Bloomington, IN

**RELATED PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE:**

- Choir Member & Soloist, First United Church – Bloomington, IN, 1992-1996 & 2000-present
- Soprano Section Leader & Soloist, Presbyterian Church – Needham, MA, 1997-1999
- Soloist with Orchestra (Cello)
  - Northland Symphony Orchestra (Kansas City, MO), 1993
  - Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, 1992
  - Bloomington Symphony Orchestra, 1991

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

*Jazz Education Network (JEN)*, Charter Member

**SUMMER WORKSHOPS ATTENDED:**

- *Phil Mattson Vocal Jazz Workshop* – Creston, IA
- *Thelonious Monk Institute Jazz Colony at Jazz Aspen/Snowmass* – Snowmass, CO
- *Stanford Jazz Workshop* – Stanford, CA
- *Jazz in July-University of Massachusetts* – Amherst, MA
- *Jamey Aebersold Jazz Workshop* – Elmhurst, IL and Louisville, KY
- *William Patterson Jazz Workshop* – Wayne, NJ
- *The Clark Terry International Institute of Jazz Studies* – LeMars, IA

**AWARDS:**

- CD, *Alive in the Singing Air*, named one of the Best Vocal CDs of 2013 by Jazz History Online
- Placed in top 10 of 150 contestants in *jazzconnect.com* annual voice competition, 2005
- Thelonious Monk Institute Jazz Colony at Jazz Aspen/Snowmass, 1997
- Winner, 9th Annual Hilton Head Jazz Society Scholarship, 1997
- Scholarship, New England Conservatory, 1996 & 97
- Wells Scholar (full four-year merit scholarship), Indiana University, 1991-95
- Chancellor's Scholar for Indiana University School of Music, 1993