

LAUREN KINHAN

Biography

Marking her fifteenth year as a member of the New York Voices, Lauren is no longer the new girl, but a rock and mortar member! Always a primary focus in her career, she has contributed original songs to the NYV repertoire and continues to do so on their latest outing, *A Day Like This*, released in August of 2007.

In 1999 Lauren recorded her debut solo project, *Hardly Blinking*, an eclectic set of original songs. They are lush with story, built on a musical palate ranging from earthy acoustic settings to cleverly layered productions. Produced by three musical powerhouses, Phil Ramone (Billy Joel, Phoebe Snow), Frank Filipetti (James Taylor), and Rob Mounsey (Steely Dan, Paul Simon) it was an opportunity for Lauren to stretch her wings in a genre that is as interesting to her as the jazz artform. Phil Ramone describes Lauren as a true songstress, like Joni Mitchell and Pheobe Snow: "She is musical, lyrical and really delivers vocally. I am a devoted fan of Lauren Kinhan." You can purchase *Hardly Blinking* on Lauren's bio page.

She has completed production on her follow up CD to *Hardly Blinking* with the release planned for the June of 2008. It is another all original songbook from Lauren showcasing her deep appreciation for melody driven music interpreted in many genres and her delicate attention to the prose. The command of her voice fully delivers the whole package. She shares the production with the multi-talented Ben Wittman (Produced Jonatha Brooke, Patty Larkin, Lucy Kaplansky, Peter Eldridge) who played drums, added arranging layers and mixed the project with seamless expertise and precision.

In 2005 she joined musical forces with four stunning solo artists creating *Moss*; Luciana Souza (Brazilian singer and composer and 3 x Grammy Nominee), Theo Bleckmann (Incredibly inventive singer, improvisationalist and sound scape artist), Kate McGarry (Soulful Jazz vocalist and composer) and Peter Eldridge (of NYV fame and composer extraordinaire). They combine their unique talents in fresh musical settings, pushing beyond their comfort zones and create new music for the vocal group genre. *Moss* has completed their Debut CD, also entitled *Moss*, and will release it in April of 2008 on the Sunnyside Label. For more information, go to www.MossProduced.org

Lauren has had the privilege of being involved in the grass roots development of Bobby McFerrin's choral project; a collection of his original songs set for multiple voices. Watch and wait for a release date.

While in stark contrast, Lauren appeared on the critically acclaimed CD by Ornette Coleman, "Sound Museum, Three Woman." It was voted Down Beat's 1997 "Jazz Record of the Year." Ornette's original, "Don't You Know By Now," showcases her expressive voice and fearless abandon. She toured for a brief time with Ornette in 1997/8, culminating with her participation and presentation of her own original song, "My Beating Heart," in his retrospective, "Celebration," at Avery Fisher Hall.

In 2000 Lauren collaborated with Japanese guitarist, Jiro Yoshida, on a collection of jazz standards entitled, "Guitar and the Moon." The rhythm section was made up of the legendary,

Eddie Gomez on bass, and members of NYV's rhythm section, Andy Ezrin on piano and Ben Wittman on drums.

The Song Writer's Hall of Fame and SESAC awarded Lauren the 1997 Abe Oleman Scholarship for song writing excellence. She is a graduate of Berklee College of Music.