

PJS Portland Jazz Singers

The **PJS** Portland Jazz Singers is a group of professional jazz soloists who have been brought together by Mitzi Zilka, jazz singer and veteran of the Portland jazz scene, to create a forum for singers to share their love of song. Since its inception in October 2004, the Concert Series or Showcase (known by both) has had more than 70 singers come through the showcase and has conducted over 100 performances at Aura Restaurant & Lounge, L.V. Uptown Jazz Club, Kenton Street Pub, Abou Karim, JAX and Tony Starlight's.

“Today most young singers working in jazz have no one to champion their cause—no recording contract, no agent, no manager. The creed is; you fight your own corner, finance your own records, book your own gig—like it or not, your art is very much your own business. Most jazz singers acknowledge that they will remain anonymous, known only to a limited, and often parochial, hardcore audience. This is not negative thinking, merely realistic.”

Excerpt from: *SINGING JAZZ, The Singers and their styles*, by Bruce Crowther and Mike Pinfeld.

Truly a Homegrown Phenomenon

PJS performers have included: Cheryl Alex, Anandi, Armonica, Carrie Bella, Mindi Brizendine, Carey Campbell, Karen Maria Capo, Sunny Cohen, Liz Coffman, Kacy Colleen, Laura Cunard, Nancy Curtin, Linda Daiber, Valerie Day, Sandy Dennison, Brian Dorsey, Thea Enos, Chrissy Faith, Mary Flower, Lisa Forkish, Todd Gang (Tobaj), John Gilmore, Karla Harris, Robert Hicks, Matina Hunnell, Jonathon James, Amandah Jantzen, Pam Jordon, Carolyn Joyce, Cory Joynt, Mary Kadderly, Lady Kat, Marilyn Keller, Heather Keizer, Yuko Keyser, Rebecca Kilgore, Nancy King, Wade Kirtley, Claudia Knauer, John Knowles, Susan Lemaster, Toni Lincoln, Annette Lowman, Barbara Lusch, Johnny Martin, Rita Marquez, Andrea Maylon, Linda Lee Michelet, Robert Moore, Shirley Nanette, Mia Nicholson, Ali O'Day, Dirk Ouellette, Jaynie Quigley, Jeff Cameron Quigley, Carol Rossio, Shelly Rudolph, Peggy Sato, Jessica Schultz, Ahna Siegfried, Sally Sieh, Susie Sinclair, Sonali Sampat, LaRhonda Steele, George Sullivan, Belinda Underwood, Ellen Vanderslice, Hidecki Watanabi, Ellen Whyte, Tara Williamson, Mike Winkle and Mitzi Zilka.