

CHIARA IZZI – *Jazz Singer, Songwriter, Composer*

<http://www.chiarazzi.com>

izzichiara@yahoo.it

“It’s very important for me to make music as a peacemaker, to work creating bridges between different worlds, to put different cultures in communication starting from the music.” – Chiara Izzi

“Chiara is one of the rare artists that we get the pleasure to meet a few times in our life.” – Kevin Hays

* * * *

Chiara Izzi is an award-winning singer-songwriter from Italy who has been based in New York City since 2014, three years after **Quincy Jones** awarded her first prize in the 2011 Montreux International Jazz Festival Vocal Competition. Since arriving, she’s become one of New York’s busiest vocalists, sharing bandstands with such luminaries as Kevin Hays, Leon Parker, Ken Peplowski, Diego Figueiredo, Jeff Hamilton, Aaron Goldberg, Bruce Barth, Eliot Zigmund, Warren Wolf. She also quickly found leader and sidemen engagements at Iridium, Smalls Jazz Club, Blue Note, 55 Bar, Birdland Jazz Club, The Kennedy Center.

Izzi first documented her formidable talents on her well-received 2013 debut album, *Motifs*, singing in English, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese on an 11-track program that spanned the American and Brazilian Songbooks, Tango, high-level Euro-Pop, and Mainstream Jazz Vocalese and Scat. Izzi navigated each idiom fluently, on its own terms of engagement, displaying her prodigious vocal instrument, refined musicianship, inherent soulfulness, and ability to convey both emotional transparency and ebullient swing. In an *All About Jazz* review Michael Bailey praised Izzi as “force of nature,” while in *Jazz Times* Travis Rogers described her as “a talent to be heard, admired and anticipated.”

How that talent has evolved and blossomed since Izzi moved to New York is apparent on her 2019 release, *Across The Sea* (Jando), a cooperative project with pianist Kevin Hays. The rising star and established master, functioning as equal collaborators, address well-wrought original pieces and lyrics by each protagonist and highly personalized interpretations of songs from composers and songwriters who both artists love and admire. Chiara’s future projects include a prospective album of Izzi’s original music with her band, and a forthcoming duo album on Dot Time Records with pianist Andrea Rea culled from a live December 2018 recording session in Bremen, Germany, on which she primarily performs songs in Italian and Spanish.