

BIO

SUZANNE PITTSON

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Suzanne Pittson is an accomplished jazz vocalist living in New York. She began piano studies at age 8, and earned a Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts in Music (as a classical pianist) from San Francisco State University, before turning her attention to jazz voice. Suzanne has been recognized for her musicianship and improvisational skills, called “more than just a singer, but a jazz musician. With a fluid phrasing and stunning tone, she uses her voice as another instrument, improvising and playing with the melodies.” (All About Jazz). Jazz Inside New York says: “Some controversy exists over just what makes a jazz vocalist. Listen to Suzanne Pittson and you’ll know.”

Suzanne has released three critically-acclaimed CDs: **Blues and the Abstract Truth**, **Resolution: A Remembrance of John Coltrane** and **Out of the Hub: The Music of Freddie Hubbard** and has performed in the US and Europe at such major venues as Yoshi’s, Birdland, Catalina’s, Town Hall, Symphony Space, Aaron Davis Hall, Cornelia Street Cafe, Enzo’s Jazz, and has performed and/or recorded with John Patitucci, Buster Williams, Dave Liebman, Steve Wilson, Mike Clark, Jeremy Pelt, Shunzo Ohno, Mark Soskin, Jack Walrath, Chip Jackson, Harvie S, & more.

On her latest release **Out of the Hub: The Music of Freddie Hubbard**, Suzanne takes jazz vocals to a new level. This recording is a perfect marriage of Hubbard’s music and Suzanne’s lyrics and also showcases her amazing skill as an improvising jazz musician. It features some of the most dynamic jazz musicians on the New York City scene today. Along with Pittson on vocals, Jeremy Pelt is on trumpet, Steve Wilson on alto & soprano saxophone, Jeff Pittson on piano, John Patitucci on bass and Willie Jones III on drums, with stunning arrangements by Jeff Pittson. The lyrics were a collective collaboration by the Pittson family: Suzanne, Jeff and their son Evan, and were approved by Freddie just three months before he passed away. A great honor indeed!!

In addition to the music of Freddie Hubbard, Suzanne has also performed the entire John Coltrane “A Love Supreme” with original lyrics, including a 2014 performance at the CUNY Jazz Festival to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Coltrane’s original Impulse recording in 1964.

Ms. Pittson is Assistant Professor of Jazz Vocal Studies at the City College of New York, where she directs the BFA jazz vocal program.