

# SUSANA RAYA

Considered by the jazz critic and historian **Ted Gioia** as "**the Andalusian Eva Cassidy**", Raya is a rare thing in art. She has developed a style where voice and guitar seem to breathe at the same time.

Songwriter, classically trained guitar player, European awarded jazz singer and jazz guitar graduated. Susana combines her singer-songwriter spirit with a jazz touch which is enhanced by her Spanish roots.

Her collaboration with the legendary jazz bass player, **Steve Swallow** in **New York**, opened the door to record her new album *Wind Rose*. Providence brought her the joy to make it with a five star team: Clifford Carter, Ira Coleman, Leo Amuedo and Cyro Baptista. The producer, Gary Burke, says: "She can sing, she can play and she can write. A triple threat as we say here in the States."

*"My music is the result of being inspired by artists that have resonated in me profoundly. My biggest love has gone to Chet Baker, Pat Metheny, Elis Regina, Antonio Vega, Eva Cassidy, and many others..."*

She was mentioned in the new book of Ted Gioia, "Jazz Standard: a guide to the repertoire" (Oxford University press, 2012) that recommends her "My one and only love" version among other thirteen.

## AWARDS

- First Prize "International Young Jazz Singers Contest Nomme Jazz" Tallinn, Estonia, 2006.
- Second Prize "International Jazz Singers Contest Lady Summertime", Finland, 2006.
- Third Prize "International Jazz Soloist Competition", Monaco, 2007.
- SECOND PRIZE "International Jazz Competition for Singing Musician", Zory, Poland. 2011.
- Finalist "International Massimo Urbani Award" (Italy), 2006.
- "Best Spanish Group" II International Jazz Granada Festival Contest. 2003

## HIGH LIGHTS

- 2012. Invited by the legendary Dutch guitar player Jan Akkerman at Royal Theater Carré in Amsterdam.
- 2009-2011. Soloist with the Córdoba Symphony Orchestra and the Basque National Orchestra singing Cole Porter and Chick Corea's songs .
- Performance at International jazz festivals including: Holland Festival (Netherlands) Silk Road Festival (Syria), Music Festival Amman (Jordania), Südtirol Jazz Festival (Italy), Pori Jazz (Finland), Kaunas Jazz Festival (Lithuania)...

## PRESS & QUOTES

"Susana Raya is an amazing talent, and I find her performances deeply moving". Ted Gioia, Jazz critic and historian.

"In a perfect world, everyone would know her music". Bill Piburn, Fingerstyle Guitar Journal.

"She can sing, she can play and she can write. A "triple threat" as we say here in the States. Susana, you truly can "hang with the big dogs." Gary Burke, producer and drummer.

"She's brilliant!". Martin Taylor, virtuoso fingerstyle guitarist.

"A pure, honest, unaffected voice, extremely musical and fantastic lyrics, great talent" Ira Coleman, musician

"Always love your creativity and sensitivity. An inspiring singer and player" David Hosler, Seven C Music.

"I just love your work". Lori Lieberman, singer-songwriter.

"Improviser full of fantasy and a sensitive interpreter" Luca Sabbatini, Tribune de Genève.