

"Musicians as diversely gifted as Carmen Lundy, who have excelled as a vocalist, composer, lyricist, arranger, and pianist for more than three decades, remain far and few between." - Jazz Times

2026 NEA Jazz Master and 2-time Grammy® Nominated Jazz singer, composer and arranger **Carmen Lundy** hails from Miami, Florida and received her B.M. degree from the University of Miami. After an early successful career in Miami, Lundy moved to NYC in 1978 and in 1985, she released her first solo album entitled *Good Morning Kiss*, which topped the Billboard chart for 23 weeks.

Currently on the Afrasia Productions label, Carmen is a **2-time Grammy® Nominated** artist for her last 2 albums, *Fade To Black*, released in 2022, and *Modern Ancestors*, both for **Best Jazz Vocal Album**. She just released her 17th and latest album, the intimate and socially relevant *NOTES FROM THE WINE CELLAR*, on August 21, 2026.

Her 2017 release *Code Noir* debuted at #6 on the Billboard Jazz Chart and received both critical and popular acclaim. Carmen's other releases and discography consist of "*Good Morning Kiss*" (CLR/Afrasia Productions), "*Moment To Momen*" (Arabesque/Afrasia Productions), "*Night And Day*" (CBS/SONY and re-issued by Afrasia in 2011), "*Old Devil Moon*" (JVC), "*Self Portrait*" (JVC), "*Something To Believe In*" and "*This Is Carmen Lundy*" (both for Justin Time), "*Jazz and The New Songbook – Live at The Madrid*" (2-disc set and DVD, Afrasia Productions), "*Come Home*", "*Solamente*", "*Changes*", "*Soul To Soul*" and "*Code Noir*" (Afrasia Productions). All have topped the Best Albums and Top Ten Albums lists on JazzWeek, Downbeat, and JazzTimes.

In addition to being named a 2026 NEA Jazz Master, the highest accolade bestowed by our nation to Jazz musicians and advocates, Carmen Lundy was given the high distinction of being in the 2025 inaugural class of the **Jazz Foundation of America Jazz Legacies Fellowship**, with support from **The Mellon Foundation**. One of 20 recipients, the fellowship honors the legacies of Jazz musicians by recognizing their lifelong, unwavering contributions to Jazz in all its forms. Additionally, in November of 2023, she was awarded the *Inaugural Centennial Medal of Honor* from the University of Miami as a distinguished alumna, along with such honorees as Gloria Estefan, Jon Secada, and Dawnn Lewis.

Among Lundy's other awards and recognitions are a *Grammy® Award* for Terri Lyne Carrington's *Mosaic Project*, *Grammy® Winner* for Best Jazz Vocal Album of 2011, which features the Carmen Lundy composition "Show Me A Sign", with Lundy's original performance from the album "*Solamente*" reinvented on the arrangement; the 2018 *RoundGlass Music Award* for her song "Kumbaya" from *Code Noir*; *Historymaker* status by the esteemed *The Historymakers®* organization, the nation's largest African American video oral history collection based in Chicago, IL; and especially rewarding was Miami-Dade's County Office of the Mayor and Board of County Commissioners proclaiming January 25th "**Carmen Lundy Day**", along with handing Ms. Lundy the keys to the City of Miami.

As a composer, Ms. Lundy's catalogue numbers over 180 published songs, one of the few jazz vocalists in history to accomplish such a distinction. Her compositions have been recorded by such artists as Kenny Barron, Ernie Watts, Terri Lyne Carrington, Straight Ahead and Regina Carter. Carmen's far-reaching discography also includes performances and recordings with such musicians as brother and bassist Curtis Lundy, Ray Barretto, Bruce Hornsby, Mulgrew Miller, Kip Hanrahan, Courtney Pine, Roy Hargrove, Jimmy Cobb, Ron Carter, Randy Brecker, Oscar Castro-Neves, Robert Glasper, Jamison Ross, Patrice Rushen, and the late Kenny Kirkland and Geri Allen among others.

Carmen Lundy's work as a vocalist and composer has been critically acclaimed by Jazz Times, Downbeat, Jazziz, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Los Angeles Times, Variety, The Washington Post, and Vanity Fair among numerous other foreign publications.

Having taught at UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music as the Global Jazz Studies Lecturer, Lundy is an esteemed educator, having acted as Resident Clinician at *Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead at The Kennedy Center* in Washington, D.C. for 20 years. She has conducted Master Classes around the world, among them the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, The Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Grammy Museum in Los Angeles, Master Classes in Japan, Brazil, South Africa, Australia, and throughout Europe. In 2023, she was named and served as *Harvard University Jazz Master In Residence*. Lundy also serves on the Board of the Mary Lou Williams Foundation.

Also a burgeoning filmmaker, Carmen's first documentary, "**Nothing But The Blood - The True Story Of The Apostolic Singers Of Miami**," won the prestigious Best Music Documentary Award at its world premiere at the DTLA Film Festival (Los Angeles) in 2022. The Apostolic Singers (featuring singers from several generations of Carmen's family) have performed for over 40 years in the Florida area and never made a studio recording documenting their incredible gospel voices until December 26, 1991. A true labor of love, "Nothing But the Blood" documents the taping of their first recording session ever, complete with interviews.

In addition, Carmen Lundy is a celebrated mixed media artist and painter, and her works have been exhibited in New York at the Kenkeleba Gallery and at The Jazz Gallery in Soho, at The Jazz Bakery in Los Angeles, and at a month-long exhibition at the Madrid Theatre in Los Angeles, CA. Several of her mixed media sculptures are currently touring and on exhibit at The Carr Center in Detroit, MI and at Emerson College in Boston, MA for the installation "Shifting The Narrative: Jazz And Gender Justice", curated in part by the celebrated jazz drummer and composer Terri Lyne Carrington.

Ms. Lundy is also a gifted actress active in theatre. "Acting," as she told Dr. Billy Taylor in 2006, "helps me to get more comfortable and acquainted with the art of performance." She performed as Mary Lou Williams alongside pianist Geri Allen in the musical "A Conversation with Mary Lou", directed by S. Epatha Merkerson and written by Farah Griffin, as well as performing the lead role as Billie Holiday in the Off-Off Broadway play "They Were All Gardenias" by Lawrence Holder. She starred in the lead role of the Broadway show, Duke Ellington's "Sophisticated Ladies," and she made her television debut as the star of the CBS Pilot-Special "Shangri-La Plaza" in the role of Geneva, after which she relocated to Los Angeles, where she currently resides.

www.carmenlundy.com