Jazz Vocalist Karen Marguth

One of the finest American jazz vocalists.

- Jazz Times Magazine

Karen is indeed a jazz singer, with pinpoint intonation and a supple voice allowing her to phrase and scat with audacity.

-Cadence Magazine



Headline performances: Jazzy Blues Festival, France Decibelles Festival, France Dizzy's, San Diego Catalina's, Los Angeles Charlie O's, Los Angeles Sun Valley Jazz Festival Arizona Classic Jazz Festival Central Valley Jazz Festival Yosemite International Jazz Festival

In Concert

Vocalist Karen Marguth breezed Saturday, January 26th, fronting a kind of California-All-Star group for a superbly paced evening of consistently swinging jazz. Marguth is the real deal, spot-on intonation, crystal clear enunciation, and, above all, a flawless sense of phrasing. Her resonant voice soared, swooped and most of all, swung with a lithe and natural ability. She tackled a barrelhouse treatment of taking long, held-tones and stretching them like saltwater taffy. She can also handle a stripped free of artifice on "So I

Marguth is a true professional, and I thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

- Robert Bush, The San Diego Reader

Jazz Magazine of France says: "She has all the qualities of a great jazz singer."

They included Karen on their list of the best female vocalists of all time.

Down Beat Magazine Reviews

Karen Marguth isn't just another talented jazz or cabaret singer. Heavens no. Her steady, pure voice achieves a poetic gracefulness in her interpretations of songs. The hallmark of a superior singer is to make everything — including accuracy of pitch, phraseology, rapport with the rhythm section, sparks of spontaneity, the probing of one's heart — seem easy and effortless. Karen delivers — and then some."

~Frank-John Hadley

A spiritual grandchild of hipness highness

Annie Ross, Marguth is a singer with a swift, light voice and the mobility and diction to roll over tongue twisting vocalese pieces. On her Blackbird medley, she swings fiercely with only a bass accompaniment, and scats with a proper abandon. **~John McDonough**

Marguth is a California singer with a sparkle to her sound—think of Blossom Dearie, but with a fuller timbre. She sings expressively without calling attention to herself, which is a neat trick. She has honey in her low-to-medium-dynamic voice, and she swings subtly. **–Kirk Silsbee**

International Reviews

from Italy...

Karen Marguth has the rare, great capacity of true champions of instrumental jazz singing to surprise and fascinate. With a strong improvisational verve, she can scat and deliver tongue twisters at breakneck speed, playing with the sounds of words and managing rapid chord changes without neglecting a subtle, playful joke or falling into triviality. Her virtuosity is clear in any weather, from the fastest tunes with the whole band or alone with a bass, to slower ballads, to songs from vaudeville.

~ De Baser

from France...

Karen Marguth has no reason to envy Stacey Kent. Gifted with technique without flaw, great precision in all registers and impeccable articulation, her excellent phrasing permits her to easily scat and swing. She is at ease in all musical genres, from standards to Latin pieces to folk ballads. Her clear and smooth voice will charm you. A Californian to discover.

~ Jazz Magazine



from the United Kingdom...

Wow, What a remarkable, non-stop, carefully selected 17-song programme. Karen's album has bebop jazz and beautiful standards. The lovely ballad "Daydream" is a delight. There's Mike Taylor's exciting guitar solo to look for, but it's Karen who's really in charge throughout with her superb vocalizing. Her most imaginative version of "That Old Black Magic" will delightfully stun you. It's so fresh and absolutely unforgettable. Another oldie, "All of Me," has her scat singing with her great bass player Kevin Hill. Together they bring such luscious newness to a most familiar song. On "The Nearness of You," Taylor's unbelievable assist makes this sweet endearing ballad one of her many highlights. What a high note to conclude this amazing CD. It's certain to appear on our best list of the year.

~ In Tune International