

Tanya Balakyrskaya



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A vocalist and composer, originated from Ukraine and residing in Russia. Tanya's music style is quite difficult to distinguish. Indie, minimalism, some bits of jazz, pop, lounge and sympho-fusion are mixed in it, depending on a particular lineup chosen. Tanya writes music and lyrics, sometimes co-working with a Canadian poet Sienna Dahlen and using poems by E.E.Cummings.

Tanya performs at international jazz and contemporary music festivals, gets invitations to play at prestigious venues of Russia and Ukraine, her CD becomes subject to extended author's radio programs broadcast internationally (Estonian Raadio 4, Armenian Radio Van etc.).

Key events chronology:

Autumn 2011 – performing at the best Russian jazz club (Ufa) and "Jazz Branches" festival (the Moscow Jewish Cultural Center); CD presentation at Jazz Bez Festival (Ukraine); a solo concert at Plios Jazz Festival in Ivanovo Philharmonic Hall.

Summer 2011 – the "Lviv Sessions" debut CD is released, additionally issued in 123.000 copies as an attachment to the "Stereo&Video" magazine.

Winter 2010 / spring 2011 – touring around Ukraine, Poland and Russia; solo concert at one of the best venues in Russia, Urals State Theater; recording the debut CD;

Autumn 2010 – opening prestigious Jazz Koktebel Festival main stage;

headlining at Art Cooperation Festival (Ukraine), touring around 12 cities of Russia and Ukraine;
Summer 2010 – 3 Ukrainian festivals, numerous club shows;
Spring 2010 – the authors program presentation; performing at the Muz-Energo festival with the cello trio; club concerts.

Tanya's music has earned highly flattering reviews from honoured musicians and reputable journalists:

Mike Del Ferro (Netherlands), piano player (recording and touring with musicians like Toots Thielemans, Jack DeJohnette, Erik Truffaz, Scott Hamilton, Richard Galliano, Candy Dulfer etc.):

«I've just listened to Tanya's CD, great!! I like it a lot, composition, vocals... also the sound quality, excellent!»

Loris Furlan (Lizard Records, Italy):

«It's not standard jazz, it's something from the inside, perfect about composition and sounds, a sure vocal interpretation but over all – a crystal breath of the soul.»

Hristo Vitchev (USA/Bulgaria), guitar-player:

«I really liked the music. It is really fresh and deep musically. I want to buy the CD right away. It is awesome.»

Andrey Razin (Russia) piano player, Russian Composers Union member:

«A very exquisite and stylish musical utterance. The pieces stand somewhere around Kate Bush's, Joni Mitchell's and Lisa Gerrard's ones.»

Ivo Heinloo (Estonia), independent reviewer:

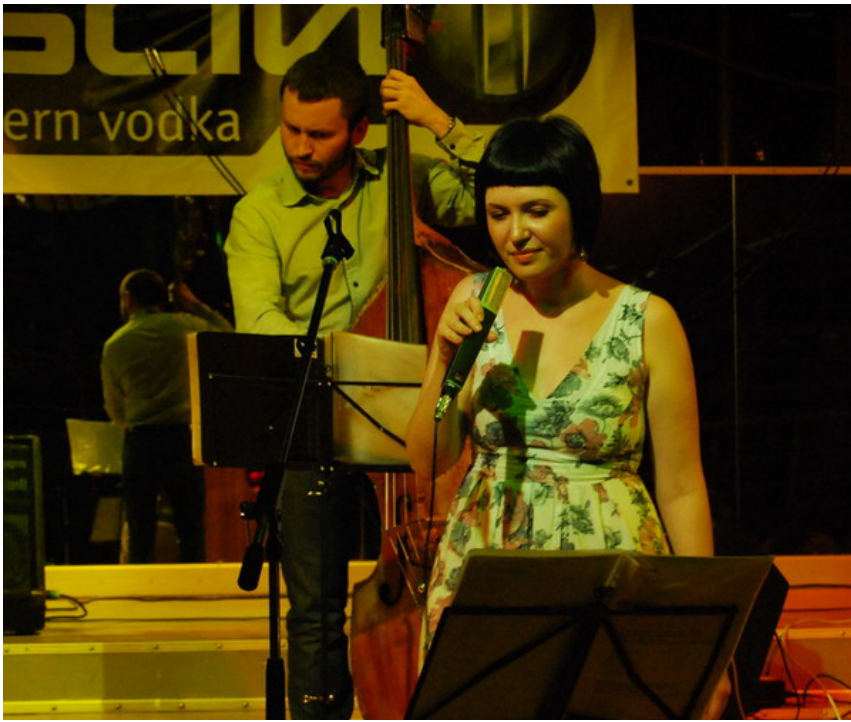
«Nice relaxing music creating a subtle and cozy atmosphere, with some tracks having a slightly prog-rockish feel. Goes far beyond the usual pop music cliches, searching for new means of expression..»

Jazzuality.com (Indonesia):

«If you want to see how jazz can appear poetically, how far an artist could go exploring their minds in the world of independent music, or simply if you want to listen to a very gifted lady who opens up a new territory to be an artist after being a successful reputable journalist, Tanya Balakyrskaya's Lviv Sessions is your choice.»

Sienna Dahlen (Canada), poet, vocalist, singer on the soundtrack to the Oscar-winning "The Danish Poet" animation movie:

«I think her music gives me the clearest idea of where creative, contemporary Russian music may be going today. The mystery in her melodies and the rhythmic variations that she uses come from a different place, however, and I can only believe that her Ukrainian/Russian roots are surfacing in those moments. ...She is extremely talented and the world needs to know about her!»



Tanya works in several various lineups totally different in style and geography.

The main band of Tanya's is located in Moscow, Russia and includes top performers of the country:

- Piotr Talalay (drums)
- Alex Nadjarov (keyboards, piano)
- Denis Shushkov (double bass).

The musicians' interests allow to explore modern approaches to jazz, where bits of jungle, down tempo, electronics and free improv are naturally mixed in.

The band performs its versions of Joni Mitchell's songs, as well as Tanya's own original pieces.



Another band Tanya regularly cooperates with is a hard-fusion trio from Yekaterinburg (Russia, the Urals), called Free Spoken Band:

- Anton Ilyenkov (guitar)
- Ignat Kravtsov (drums)
- Alexander Bulatov (bass guitar).

The trio consists of young virtuosos, producing a very breathtakingly energetic sound, practicing jazz, rock & world with bits of noise and declamation – and making real shows onstage. Tanya has had several extended tours with the band, which were of huge success.

The program consists of two sets, the Tanya's one and Free Spoken Band's alone.



One more band resides in Lviv, Ukraine and mostly consists of the local musicians. This is the lineup Tanya invited to record her "Lviv Sessions" CD:

- Ihor Hnydyn (drums)
- Alex Maksymiw (guitar, Canada/Netherlands)
- Yuri Seredyn (keyboards, missing on the pic)
- Andrew Kohan (bass guitar)

The band aims at pop-rock jazz in its best sense, rich in the attention to sound and nuances.
