

LAILA BIALI

singer pianist composer arranger

“For Biali, the jazz tradition is a step on the way to setting, and playing, her own standards.”.

-Mike Doherty, Toronto Life Magazine

LAILA BIALI is fast becoming the new face of contemporary jazz. Juno nominated for her latest release, she has already showcased her music at world-class venues spanning four continents, including New York City’s Carnegie Hall, the acclaimed North Sea Jazz Festival in the Netherlands, the International Jazz Festival in Lima, Peru and the Cotton Club in Tokyo, Japan - evidence that her compositions, playing, and singing are garnering not only national attention but world-wide recognition as well.

The past two years has seen a renewed focus on Laila’s skills as a composer, arranger, singer and pianist. Her reputation for challenging the boundaries of music is unparalleled. She takes the best of pop, rock, classical and soul, informs it with her knowledge of Jazz and weaves it all into her musical arrangements seamlessly. Her versatility has won her touring engagements with top-tier artists over the past few years, including Chris Botti, Paula Cole, Suzanne Vega, and most recently the pop icon STING.

Laila’s last album *From Sea to Sky* was named a “surefire winner” (Toronto Star) with “cause for celebration and recognition” (Montreal Gazette). Her latest release, *Tracing Light*, has been heralded for its “bold musical ventures”, “youthful funkiness”, “ingenuity, verve and depth” (Ottawa Citizen) and was nominated for a Juno Award as 2011 Vocal Jazz Album of the Year. Her other accolades include awards for “Keyboardist of the Year” and “SOCAN Composer of the Year” at the 2005 Canadian National Jazz Awards.

Aside from her active performing schedule, Laila has frequently been invited to join the faculty for the widely-acclaimed Stanford Jazz Workshop at Stanford University, where she has spent several summers teaching and performing. In response to her expanding international presence, she now divides her time between Toronto and New York City. She is currently working on material for two new recording projects.

“She’s a player of unlimited potential...her feet are firmly planted on the ladder to success.”.

-Geoff Chapman, Toronto Star