



As Grady Harp writes on Amazon Music: “Not only does Gwen Hughes have an exceptional voice by anybody’s standards, but she surpasses that magnificent gift with the manner in which she makes her terrific songs communicate.”

“I love to write songs,” says Gwen, “but my favorite challenge is taking a song everyone knows one way and presenting it another way, deconstructing and rebuilding it.” Her new releases, the *Jazz Hymn* projects, showcase this desire to reinvent classic church hymns in the jazz framework. The hymns become bossa novas like “This is My Father’s World” (*In the Garden: Jazz Hymns for Easter*), uptempo swing like “Now Thank We All Our God” (*We Gather Together: Jazz Hymns for Thanksgiving*) and even a surprising vocal-upright bass duet on “Doxology” (also *Thanksgiving*).

Her recording catalog includes original compositions and other surprising interpretations of song: the haunting “Lyn’ Eyes” (Eagles, *Native Land*); the bizarre “Under My Thumb” (Rolling Stones, *Lost and Found*); and the joyful “Mood Indigo” recorded live in a department store (Duke Ellington, *The Misplaced Martini*).

Gwen Hughes has toured in 15 countries all over the world. The US Ambassador to Slovenia, Joseph Mussomeli, proclaims: “As a performer and a person, Gwen is a delight, and the music that pours—actually, gushes—from her band is stirring and refreshing.” The US State Department sponsored two tours of her show, “Soul and Jazz Legacy,” in Eastern Europe.

Offstage, Gwen was a 10-year Board Governor with The Recording Academy; a Johnny Mercer “Artist in Residence” with the GA Music Hall of Fame; instructor for The Otis Redding Foundation Songwriter Camp; and instructor/board member with the “How Big Is Your Dream Young Artists Academy.” She is an advocate for music education all over the world, working with students of all ages in the US, Morocco, Kenya, Slovenia, and France.

Recently, Gwen was cast in the production of Stephen King and John Mellencamp’s *Ghost Brothers of Darkland County*, with music production by T-Bone Burnette. The show toured nationally for 2 years.

“Nothing satisfies like being onstage with my band, though,” Gwen states. “Listening and creating together in such an immediate way. It’s exhilarating. Only jazz can do that. “

More info: www.gwenhughes.com

Press Info and Booking: <https://gwenhughes.com/press-contact-booking-info/>