

Donna Wickham Vocalist, Composer, Educator

303-880-5606 donna@donnawickham.com

Education:

Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance, University of Denver, 2000

Master of Music in Choral Conducting, University of Denver, 2003

Awards:

Winner of "Lamont Made" Jazz Composition Contest

Membership in Pi Kappa Lambda Honor Society in recognition of outstanding scholastic and musical achievement

Winner of a major grant from the Denver University Office of Teaching and Learning to write a book of transcriptions of jazz vocal phrasing.

CCOnline Instructional Excellence Award, 2011 and 2013

Director of the Downbeat Award winning Vocal Jazz Messengers, 2016

Musical Training:

Formal training in piano from age five. Teachers include Rupert Goodbrod, former head of UNC piano department, and Eric Gunnison, noted jazz pianist, composer and jazz educator. Classical vocal instructors include Truly Barr Nelson, Larry Glenn and Sara Bardill, and Jazz voice instruction with Marguerite Juenemann. Choral conducting teachers include Robert Penn and Catherine Sailer, symphonic conducting with Lawrence Golan, wind conducting with Joseph Martin. Jazz improvisation, composing and arranging with Lynn Baker, noted jazz saxophonist, composer and jazz educator. Jazz piano, improvisation and composition with ECM recording artist Art Lande.

Musical Experience:

Lead vocals and keyboards with The Heartland Band; 1985-1987

Alto with The Desert Chorale; 1985, 1987, 1989, 2004-2008

Alto with St. Martin's Chamber Choir; 1995 to present

Alto with The Colorado Bach Ensemble; 2012 -2013

Staff Musician, Christ Episcopal Church, 1997-2004

Music Director and pianist, Wellshire Presbyterian Church, 2010 to present

Managing member of Firesign Vocal Quartet; 2009 to present

Music Director, Christ Episcopal Church, 2004 to 2010

Alto with The Carnegie Hall Workshop Chorus; 2000, 2001, 2002

Conductor and Music Director, Wheatridge Community Chorale, 2003-2004

Head of Vocal Jazz, University of Denver; 2004 to present

Vocalist with the Denver University Jazz Faculty 2004 to 2014

Various performances with the Colorado Art Rock Society; 2006 to present

Vocals in duo with noted Chapman Stick artist Steve Hahn.

Leader of the Donna Wickham Quartet; 2016 to present

Other performances include appearances with Josh Groban at Red Rocks, Pianist Christopher O'Reilly,

The Dallas Symphony, The New York Philharmonic, The Aspen Music Festival, The Denver Concert

Band, Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra, Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado, The Playground,

Santa Fe New Music, and the Colorado Music Festival.

Teaching Experience:

Instructor of Music Appreciation, Jazz History, and Music Fundamentals at CCCOnline, 2003 to present

Instructor, Jazz Voice, Vocal Jazz Combos, University of Denver 2004 to present

Instructor, Jazz History, University of Denver, 2015

Private instructor Jazz and classical voice, jazz and classical piano, theory, ear training, 1999 to present

Recordings:

Firesign Vocal Quartet: William Byrd Mass for Four Voices, Terry Schlenker Mass for Four Voices (2011)

Performer and Producer

Donna Wickham: Myth and Memory (2011)

Composed and arranged all music, performer, co-producer

Firesign Vocal Quartet: Follow We This Joyful Birth (2012)

Performer, composer, producer

Sang on 12 albums with St. Martin's Chamber Choir spanning the years 1998-2013.

Numerous recordings with The Desert Chorale from 2005-2008 and with St. Martin's Chamber Choir from 2005-2010. Back-up vocals for Bill Groh's solo release, Beelzebub (1995)

Special Musical Skills:

Perfect Pitch, extremely high level of sight-reading, ability to transcribe sound to paper, knowledge of multiple instruments; piano and electronic keyboards, electric bass, drumset, guitar, and woodwinds.

Extensive experience writing and arranging for voices and various instrumental combinations.

Knowledge of multiple popular music styles, including rock, country, jazz, blues and gospel. Extensive knowledge of classical choral literature and performance practice. Successful studio and classroom and music ensemble instructor. Clinician and adjudicator at festivals and workshops.

Other Interests:

Technical Mountaineering, including rock and ice climbing at high altitudes; Triathlons; gourmet vegan cooking.