

PETER ELDRIDGE

Composer | Vocalist | Pianist

For more than twenty years, Peter Eldridge has remained at the forefront of the jazz/singer-songwriter scene as a performer, composer, arranger, and educator. To date, Peter has released four solo albums with a fifth to debut in July of 2016. Released in 2000, "Stranger in Town" was garnered Best Jazz CD of the year by Boston radio station WICN. The album features a set of jazz standards characterized in the style of "bittersweet swing". That same year, Eldridge released "Fool No More" (Rosebud Records) which showcases his evocative original music in a sophisticated pop setting. Following those two albums was "Decorum", a 2005 release of originals. Downbeat said, "If musical intelligence and artistry were prompters to marketplace success, "Decorum" would grant him stardom. . . .strong, far-ranging voice . . . hauntingly wistful". The latin-inspired "Mad Heaven" was released in 2011 on the Palmetto label. "'Mad Heaven' showcases Eldridge as a major player in vocal jazz, an artist of extraordinary depth and conviction" (Jazz Review). Peter will release "Disappearing Day" in July 2016 with Sunnyside Records. "Disappearing Day" premieres seven original tunes written or co-written by Eldridge and five re-arrangements of songs from some of his favorite artists including, Paul McCartney, Leonard Bernstein, Luciana Souza, and the Magnetic Fields.

Peter is a founding member of the internationally acclaimed jazz vocal group, New York Voices, which has performed in some of the world's most preeminent venues including Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, and the Kennedy Center. The Voices have been involved in two Grammy Award winning projects with Paquito D'Rivera and the Count Basie Orchestra. Eldridge is also a member of the vocal group Moss, which combines the talents of Luciana Souza, Kate McGarry, Theo Bleckmann, and Lauren Kinhan. The debut album by Moss was named "one of the best CDs of the past decade" by Downbeat.

Eldridge's compositions have been included on albums by many other artists including: "Minds of Their Own" written with Brazilian composer-performer Ivan Lins, Nancy Wilson's "R.S.V.P. (Rare Songs, Very Personal)" – winner of the 2004 Grammy award for Best Jazz Vocal Album, "Difficult" recorded by Cuban saxophonist and clarinetist, Paquito D'Rivera on "The Jazz Chamber Trio", and "Postcards and Messages" on Denise Donatelli's 2012 Grammy nominated album "Soul Shadows", and multiple recordings with former student, Jane Monheit. One of his many choral pieces, "Prayer" was recorded by New York City's own Marble Collegiate Sanctuary Choir on "With Many Voices". Additionally, his arrangement of Elbow's indie-pop hit, "Mirrorball" was recorded by the choral group Chanticleer for their album, "Something New".

Two of Peter's newest projects include Foolish Hearts – a duo setting featuring bassist Matt Aronoff, as well as his first full fledged musical, "The Kiss", co-written with Chicago playwright Cheri Coons about the life, loves, and art of Austrian painter, Gustav Klimt. As an educator, Peter enjoyed eighteen years as head of Manhattan School of Music's jazz voice department and is now in his third year on the voice faculty at Berklee College of Music. Additionally, Eldridge regularly leads master classes and workshops and guest conducts All-State groups across the United States. Notable collaborations include Bobby McFerrin, Fred Hersch, Becca Stevens, George Benson, Kenny Werner, David Byrne, Jonatha Brooke, Kurt Elling, Jon Hendricks, and Mark Murphy.