

Carol Mennie Bio

Carol Mennie began singing in the First Methodist church choir when she was ten of acting and singing lured her to New York City where she graduated from the prestigious American Academy of Dramatic Arts. A few years later, while touring regional theaters throughout the United States, Carol began singing again. In 1989 she met her husband, jazz guitarist Dom Minasi, and by April 1990 they debuted as a duo in the Kingsborough College Jazz Concert.

Maintaining a busy acting career, she has appeared at the National Theatre in Washington, D.C., received an OOB for her portrayal of Gloriana Powers in *CHAIN OF SUMMER VOICES*, performed in *FRANKIE & JOHNNY* opposite Tony Award-winning Anthony Crivello at Milwaukee Rep., then combined her singing & acting in the dual role of **Lady Blues** and Mrs. Beckoff in the revival of *TORCH SONG TRILOGY* in New York, where Dom was the Musical Director.

Carol and Dom have worked as a duo since 1990, performing in the most noted clubs, including **Birdland**, **Smoke** and **The Blue Note** in New York City. During the 1999 Christmas Season they performed at the **Clinton White House**. In 2002 they performed with their septet at the Central Park Bandshell. Carol can be heard on Dom Minasi's *Time Will Tell* on Monk's ' *Round Midnight*. She is featured on Dom's website (www.domminasi.com) as well as her own: (www.carolmennie.com)

Her 2004 release as a solo artist *I'm Not A Sometime Thing* met with glowing reviews. Other collaborations include Carol acting in the award-winning film *Pit Bull*, for which Dom composed the musical score, and Dom's *The Vampire's Revenge*, voted one of the Top 10 Albums of 2006 by **Downbeat's** Howie Mandel.

Carol is currently working on her next album featuring **Dr. Lonnie Smith**.

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What Critics Are Saying About Carol Mennie's "I'm Not A Sometime Thing"

"...highly recommended."

Jim Santella: Allaboutjazz.com

"...reservoirs of emotion ... like Billie Holliday..."

Don Williamson: Jazz Review.com

"I'm Not A Sometime Thing' is a wonderful and adventurous first outing by the New York vocalist. It is ...sexy, sultry, playful ..."

Lyle Robinson: Jazz Guitar Life.com

"... an impressive debut by a seasoned singer with a distinctive style..."

Russ Musto contributing editor AAJ

"Mennie makes you listen to a lyric, whether you felt like it or not".

Jochem van Dijk: AAJ.com

"...sung like poetry..."

D.Oscar Groomes: O's Place Jazz News Letter

"Carol Mennie steps out as a leader and hits one out of the park."

C. Michael Bailey: Senior Editor AAJ.com

"...a worthy addition to any jazz collection."

John Gilbert: Ejazznews

"Carol's approach... is adventurous, engaging and always thought provoking."

Bruce Crowther : Jazz and other Obsessions.

"It's a rare thing indeed when a date lives up to the promise of the singer's intense gaze on the cover. Carol Mennie is clearly not a sometime thing."

David Dupont: One Final Note

"..phenomenal instrumental backing...radiates with the energy of a live performance.."

Robert A. Lindquist: Singer & Musician Magazine, August 2005

Quotes About Carol Mennie's "Round Midnight" Vocal Featured on Dom Minasi's Time Will Tell CDM 1003

"Carol Mennie's authoritative alto voice gives the room a subtle tinge of smoke and dimmed lights."

Jim Santella: *Allaboutjazz.com*

"The final selection is a smoky, after-hours version of Monk's 'Round Midnight' featuring Carol Mennie's interpretation of the song's downhearted lyrics."

Marshall Bowden: *Jazzitude*

"'Round About Midnight,' sung with smoky-velvety élan by Carol Mennie (this set's sole vocal piece)." –

Mark Keresman: *Jazziz Magazine*

"...the record ends as a solemn farewell on Monk's 'Round Midnight', matching the dueling bows, Minasi's nylon strings and Mennie's haunting, unconventional phrasing for a moody conclusion."

Jay Collins

"...Carol's vocal soft and soothing."

Bruce Galenter: *Down Town Music Gallery News Letter*

"...Carol Mennie supplying pliant vocals, perfect with Minasi's and Ulrich's strings."

C. Michael Bailey: *Allaboutjazz.com*

"...added the voice of Carol Mennie to 'Round Midnight' to bring microtonal lyrical expression to the tune."

Don Williamson: *Jazz Review*

"'Round Midnight' is an exquisite piece with the sensual overtones of wife Carol Mennie. This is a superb emotion to end this long awaited project. The strings and vocals flow in you as they were making love to your senses."

Karl Stober: *Ejazz News*

"...Mennie, contributes a haunting interpretation of the lyric."

Frank A. Matzer: *Allaboutjazz.com*

"...Carter-esque delivery by the group & their vocalist, Carol Mennie of Monk's eternal jazz ballad, 'Round Midnight.' "

George W. Carroll: *Ejazz News*

"Completing the session is a somber 'Round Midnight' with a slinky Carol Mennie vocal; simply couldn't be more evocative of that longing-beneath-a-streetlight air I always thought Monk and friends were going for."

Ken Egbert: *Jazz Now*

"beautifully sung version of 'Round Midnight' featuring...Carol Mennie"

Chris Kelsey: *Jazz Times*

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