

BARB JUNGR BIOGRAPHY



With rave reviews internationally and two New York awards (2008 Nightlife Award for Outstanding Cabaret Vocalist and Best International Artist 2003 Backstage Award), Barb Jungr is renowned for her unique vocal and interpretative style.

Critics have compared her to Nina Simone and Peggy Lee, hailing her and "one of the best interpreters of Jacques Brel and Bob Dylan anywhere on this planet today" (Village Voice). The New York Times found her "mesmerizing".

In 2007 she appeared at The Queen Elizabeth Hall in collaboration with the composer Mark Anthony Turnage in *About Water*, which was specially written for her. In 2005/6 she appeared on the BBC performing in the *Tribute to Bob Dylan* Concert alongside Odetta, KT Tunstall and Billy Bragg and in July 2006, she was featured on a BBC One documentary *Queens of Heartache* - a programme about iconic female singers.

Rochdale-born and Stockport-bred, Jungr's passionate singing and extraordinary song styling has its roots in northern soul, opera and jazz - the music that informed her early years. In the 1980s she was part of the 'alternative cabaret' circuit; performing and recording with the cult vocal harmony group *The Three Courgettes*. Subsequently she enjoyed a 12-year song-writing and musical partnership with blues guitarist and songwriter Michael Parker. Together, they released six albums and worked extensively on tour, radio and television with, among others, Julian Clary and Alexei Sayle.

During the early 1990s Jungr created the award winning harmony shows *Hell Bent Heaven Bound* but her solo career took off after she recorded *Bare* in 1999, which brought her to the attention of Linn Records, with whom she has since recorded six albums.

Since appearing in downtown Manhattan in 2002, Jungr regularly performs in the United States - especially in New York where she has developed a loyal following. Australia has proved an equally successful territory as illustrated by a sell-out residency at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival in summer 2006, followed by an 11 date tour in 2007 further underlining her fast-growing global reputation as a leading song-stylist.

With Mari Wilson and label-mate Claire Martin she created the sell-out cabaret show *Girl Talk* whose album was released and launched at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London in 2006.

Jungr continues to write extensively. She is the lyricist for Birmingham Stage Company's sellout version of *The Jungle Book* and, in collaboration with John Paul Zaccarini she is writing *The Art Of Falling Gracefully*. She is also, in collaboration with composer Jonathan Cooper, writing *Mabel Stark, Tiger Tamer*.

In March '08, Linn Records released her new recording, *Just Like A Woman (hymn To Nina)*.