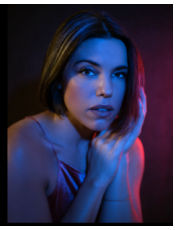
SHELLEY THOMAS

Performer - Composer | www.shelleythomasmusic.com | shelleythomasmusic@gmail.com | 323-868-1932



EDUCATION

- **California Institute of the Arts,** BFA World Music Performance (2008)
- **343 Labs,** Logic Pro X, Mixing & Mastering Courses (2020-21)
- **Music Production for Women**, Mixing Course (2021)

KEY SKILLS

- Vocal Coaching
- Visionary Composition
- Music for Film & TV
- Music Production
- Logic Pro X
- Oud, Percussion
- Sibelius
- Lightroom
- Premiere Rush
- Digital Photography
- Transcription
- Arranging
- Linguistic Versatility
- Improvisation

ACCOLADES

- **KCRW**'s Rhythm Planet Playlist Feature (2020)
- Feature on the **GRAMMY-Winning Album "**Sing Me Home" by **Yo-Yo Ma** & **Silk Road Ensemble** with vocal trio Black Sea Hotel (2017)
- Solo album **"Joy"** called "one of the half dozen best albums of 2016" by NY Music Daily

*GRAMMY-featured professional vocalist, oud player and producer-composer. International touring artist. Studied under forty world class teachers. Compositions blend Balkan, Arabic, Hindustani, Classical, Pop-Soul, and African musical styles into a new genre called **World Chamber Pop**. Captivates audiences with her cinematic arrangments and emotive power. Work pushes the boundaries of musical archetypes in a reverent and progressive aesthetic.*

HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Music District**'s **Sync Workout** (Advanced Production + Songwriting Program for Select Artists), Fort Collins, CO (Spring-Summer 2021)
- Critically acclaimed release of **new single + video "Mirror"** (2020)
- Release of debut single + video **"Cancer Moon"** (2020)
- **Folk Camp Canada**, week-long workshop Teaching Artist, Bulgarian Vocals (2014 + 2019)
- Creative Codex podcast interview with MJ Dorian
- Toured in **Sweden, Denmark**, **Canada, Mexico**, **Cuba, UAE, Lebanon,** and **Russia**
- **Recent performances:** Mediterranean Jazz Fest, **Rockwood Music Hall**, Yale University, Nublu, Toronto's Drom Taberna, **Alex Grey's CoSM,** the Sonic Jungle, **Ecstatic Dance NYC** (2019)

COMPOSITION / SCORING EXPERIENCE

- **"Corrie in the Hood",** Web Series produced by the Optimistiks, Composer (2021)
- **Jordan Glazer** Student Short Film, CU Boulder Film School, Composer (2021)
- **Autumn Mirassou**, Reiki Healer Promotional Videos, Composer + Editor (2020)

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

Recorded, performed and toured locally and internationally with world-class artists including Black Sea Hotel, **Yo-Yo Ma and the Silkroad Ensemble**, The Knights, **Kronos Quartet**, Brooklyn Youth Chorus, Hassan Hakmoun, the **New York Arabic Orchestra**, AlSarah and the Nubatones, Simon Shaheen, Adam Maalouf, and Innov Gnawa, among many others

Notable venues and festivals include **Moscow Conservatory**, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, **MIT**, **Pioneer Works, National Sawdust,** Joe's Pub, **BRIC**, Le Poisson Rouge, **Yale** Repertory Theater, Prototype Festival, Panorama Festival, Abu Dhabi Fest at **Emirates Palace**, LaMaMa Theater, **Symphony Space**, Lund Choral Fest, Stallet, Vancouver Island Music Fest, Cumbre Tajin Fest, Havana World Music Fest, and Fete de la Musique Beirut

RECENT PRESS

- *"Lush orchestral arrangements…guides you through a sonic journey to the beautifully haunted side of yourself…world music magic"* **- AudioFemme** (2020)
- *"Introspective…taps a wide palate of instruments and influences"* **- Tom Schnabel, KCRW's Rhythm Planet** (2020)
- Features in **Women in Music**, Balanced Breakfast, PM Studio, That Buzzing Sound, **The Deli Charts**, Rockn'Load Magazine, Guitar Girl Magazine, and **Elephant Journal** (2020)

"Refined, imaginative and gorgeous"

-Beehive Candy

GRANTS RECIEVED

- **Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA)** Traditional Arts Development Grant (2012)
- **Musicares** Artist Relief Grant (2020)
- Passim Relief Fund Grant (2020)
- FAN Musician Relief Fund Grant (2020)

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

- **Chateaux Orquevaux**, Orquevaux, France (2021)
- **The Banff Centre**, Persian & Eastern Traditions 3-week Residency Program, Alberta, Canada (2015)
- **Avaloch Artist Residency**, two-week residency with Black Sea Hotel, Avaloch Farm, MA (2015)

RECENT PROJECTS

- **Sounds Like NYC** Podcast Interview (2020)
- "The Other Side" - Song Collaboration with Electronic producer **Husks** (Winter '20 Release)
- Composition & production of full album for **10-piece microtonal orchestral ensemble** with **Bunker Studios**, New York, NY (2021)

SELECTED ENSEMBLE WORK

- Brooklyn Nomads at **MIT,** MA and **Le Poisson Rouge**, NY (soloist, 2017)
- Adam Maalouf + Future Tribe at **Alwan for the Arts**, NY, **New York Sephardic Music Festival**, and Musikfest, PA (soloist, 2017)
- **Simon Shaheen's Arabic Music Retreat Fundraiser Gala** - Harvard Club, NYC (soloist, 2016)
- **Abu Dhabi Festival** with Vocalist Mayssa Karaa, **Emirates Palace**, Dubai, UAE (2015)
- Feature on Moroccan Gnawa icon **Hassan Hakmoun** Album "Unity" (named **NCPR's** "Best Global Music of 2014" List) and Release Concert, **Joe's Pub**, NYC (2014)
- Fairouz Tribute with **AlSarah & the Nubatones, BAM Cafe**, Brooklyn, NY (2014)
- "Fire.Water.Night" at LaMaMa Theater - New York Innovative Theater Award Winner (soloist, 2014)

NEW YORK ARABIC ORCHESTRA

- Soloist at Annual Winter Concerts (2015-Present)
- Columbia University, FIAF, NY, and **Detroit Symphony Hall**, MI (2012)
- **Symphony Space, Schoemburg Center Carnegie Hall** Neighborhood Concert, **Lincoln Center Out of Doors Festival**, NY (2011)

BLACK SEA HOTEL VOCAL TRIO

- **BRIC** Performance with **The Knights**; **Sweden + Denmark Tour** including performances at Stallet Stockholm + Lund Choral Festival (2018)
- Feature on **Yo-Yo Ma** and the **Silk Road Ensemble**'s **GRAMMY-winning album**, "Sing Me Home" (Best World Music Album, 2017)
- **Prototype Festival** at HERE Arts Center, NY; video premiere of "Zhenish Me Mamo", directed by Sundance-selected filmmaker Josephine Decker; vocals for **Panorama Festival's Ark Dome**, NY; arrangement & recording for **Lenny Kaye** / Jesse Colter Album "The Psalms" (2017)
- **Pioneer Works**, NY (2016)
- **St. Ann's Warehouse, National Sawdust**, NY with **Kronos Quartet** and the **Brooklyn Youth Chorus**; **Joshua Tree Music Fest**, CA (2015)
- **Joe's Pub**, NY (2014)

BULGARIAN VOICES TRIO

- **Ragas Live Festival** with Navatman Vocal Trio, **Pioneer Works**, NY (2018)
- **ChoralFest USA** at Symphony Space, **Confetti Machine Media Festival**, NY + **Havana World Music Festival**, Cuba (2017)
- Small World Music Center, Toronto; Old Town School of Folk Music, Chicago; and **Moscow Conservatory**, Russia (2016)
- Hillside Festival and Vancouver Island Music Festival, Canada; **Lincoln Center Out of Doors** Festival and **Rubin Museum**, NY (2015)
- Jetlag Festival, **Joe's Pub**, NY (2014)
- **Queens Museum**, Rural Route Film Festival, NY + Cumbre Tajin Festival, Mexico (2013)
- Bulgarian Consulate General, The Atrium at **Lincoln Center**, NY (3/12)

"As exhilarating to listen to as it is a towering display of vocal prowess. Thomas has such vast range, formidable technique and minutely nuanced command of microtones that she can do it all. The result is rapture that sometimes borders on terror" **- New York Music Daily**

LANUAGES SUNG

English, Bulgarian, Arabic, Greek, Macedonian, Serbian, Ukrainian, Bosnian, Croatian, Russian, Albanian, Romanes, Hindi, Bengali, Turkish, Spanish, Farsi, Georgian, Latin, Czech, French, Italian, German, and Ewe.

FILM + RADIO

- Sounds Like NYC, **WGBB**, New Cleveland Radio Interviews (2020)
- Creative Codex Podcast Interview (2019)
- Radio Free Brooklyn (2018)
- **KSFR**, **KUNM**, **WFMU** and **WNYC's Soundcheck** with Black Sea Hotel (2014-2018)
- **BRIC Independent Media** Brooklyn with Bulgarian Voices Trio (2014)

INTERNSHIPS

- **Alwan for the Arts**, Arabic Cultural non-profit volunteer (2011-2014)
- **Center for Traditional Music and Dance**, Artist Management Intern

SHELLEY THOMAS
MUSIC

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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Music To Your Home,** Vocal Instructor (2017-present)
- **Private Voice Lessons** (2015-present)
- **Gowanus Music Club**, Vocal Instructor (2017-2019)
- **Workshops** and **Master Classes** in Balkan, Arabic, and African music for youth and adults including P.S.230, **Hunter College** (2016), and **Regis College** (2018) with ensembles such as the New York Arabic Orchestra, Zhena Folk Chorus, Ukrainian Village Voices, and the CalArts Latin Jazz Band Community Arts Partnership
- Vocal Workshops with Black Sea Hotel including and **William & Mary College**, VA (2014), **Sjöviks folkhögskola**, Sweden (2018) and **Queens College** NY (2019)
- Vocal Workshops with Bulgarian Voices Trio including Champlain Valley H.S., Essex H.S., and **Middlebury College,** VT; **Weslyan University**, CT, and Birch School, MA (2014)
- **One World Brooklyn Kids Chorus**, Teaching Artist / Musical Director, Brooklyn, NY (2014-2015)
- **Janna Organization**, Palestinian Refugee Children's Program, Volunteer Music Teacher, Beirut, Lebanon (2015)

FURTHER EDUCATION

- **Photo Manhattan** - Digital Photography I & II Courses, NY, NY (2017-18)
- **Mayday Language School**, Intermediate Integrated Arabic, NY (2018)
- **Lebanese American University, SINARC Program** *(Summer Institute for Intensive Arabic Language & Culture)* Semester Courses in Intermmediate Levantine Arabic (2018)
- **Simon Shaheen's Arabic Music Retreat**: Week-long intensive music seminar on Arabic Classical music, Mount Holyoke College, MA (2013-Present)
- **Chandayan Center for Indian Music**, Hindustani Vocal Workshop, NY (2014)
- **Plovdiv Academy of Music, Dance, and Fine Arts,** week-long Bulgarian Folk Music and Dance seminar, Plovdiv, Bulgaria (2010)
- **Hollywood High School**: Performing Arts Magnet Program, Los Angeles, CA (2004)
- Continued study and performance of piano, singing, and guitar since age seven

PRESS CONTD.

- *"Impressive, intelligent, beautiful…the evolution of singing"* **- Alex Grey,** Visionary Artist
- *"Deep and Incredible"* **- DJ Nickodemus**, Wonderwheel Records
- *"Shelley's performance was sublime...unique and impressive...her voice is fresh, melodic, and evocative. Her passion for her work is demonstrated in the intense commitment she gives. Everyone was enthralled"* - **Beledi Beat**
- *"Transcendent"* - **Nomadique Collective**