



Joy Sumberg



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BIOGRAPHY

Joy Sumberg's magic is "her resonant reminiscence of life stages, touching on romance, as well as interpersonal levels. Her sultry timbre is easy as an afternoon rowboat ride."

Joy honed her songwriting and performing skills as a street musician in Harvard Square, Cambridge, MA. It was on this proving ground that she first began to share her lyrics and melodies crafted with an extreme personal honesty surrounded by simple acoustic chords. Those days of singing in the brilliant summer sun solidified her love of beautiful melodies that resonate down the red brick walkways and echo off the historic buildings creating an enchanting music box.

Today, Joy continues to create deeply personal songs about love, friendship, beauty, and sometimes unfiltered anger. Her live solo performances layer a teasing humor that contrasts with the intensely personal nature of her songs. The combination creates an intimate evening of folky, rocky, soulful music with a hint of mountain flavor and the welcomed touch of laughter.

Past collaborations include recording projects with progressive rock band, Plank, lead-singer of Boston-based rock band, Buzzstar and North Shore folk/blues band, Neptune Bay.

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

Original songs "Dancer" and "Rain" are featured in the 2006 film "Free to Fly. In addition to featuring songs, Joy also makes her first cinematic appearance as a performer at an open mic.

"I Shall Be Released" recorded with Neptune Bay made the Folk on WGBH 89.7 playlist.

Produced and hosted The North Shore Music Project TV show for North Shore Comcast access channels, with Neptune Bay.

SELECTED PERFORMANCE VENUES

Mocha Maya's Coffeehouse, Shelburne Falls, MA
The Middle East, Cambridge, MA
The Plough and Stars, Cambridge, MA
Skybar, Somerville, MA
Grumpy's, Falmouth, MA
The Grog, Newburyport, MA
Yankee Homecoming Festival, Newburyport, MA
Essex Music Festival, Essex, MA
Terra Blues, The Village, New York City
-Other local venues



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PRESS EXCERPTS

Excerpt of Review of Mocha Maya's show on Saturday, September 30, 2006.

Joy Sumberg Soothes Mocha Maya's

October 1, 2006
Gregory G. Lewis
gregory@newsketeer.com

...Joy Sumberg massaged her crowd with teasing humor, putting them on the spot. Light taunts were deflected with familiar laughs. Whether coaxing memories of adolescent crushes or touching a few personally embarrassing moments like the glancing touch of a butterfly's wing, Sumberg infused prose with personality and song with sincerity.

She possesses uncanny introspection, as demonstrated by her prelude to *Listen To You*. "You know how we go through our lives, and we do what other people want us to do, then we go back to the center of our selves, and go, 'no, listen to you!'"

Listening to "Rain" on her elegantly titled cd *Joy Sumberg* (on the following rainy Sunday morning, no less), the difference in sound between studio production and stage was remarkable. Joy admitted her cd is more instrumental than her live performances. Her Mocha Maya's show was a simple, unplugged affair. Her black Guild acoustic guitar color-coordinated with her misty aspect; her understated presence was genuine and appealing.

Joy's real magic was her resonant reminiscence of life stages, which touched on romance, as well as deeper interpersonal levels. Her sultry timbre is easy as an afternoon rowboat ride.

Some Mocha Maya's presentations are more crowd-pleasing than others. There are times when you can enjoy a coffee with a friend, and make small talk while the artist is strumming in the background. Not so with Joy Sumberg at the mike, given her combination of warmth, intelligence and grace, if slightly tinged with self-consciousness.

Regardless, her enraptured patrons deferred their chatter for a spell, and even small children walking by on the Bridge Street sidewalk had to stop and listen.



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PRESS EXCERPTS

Oh what a beautiful tone in this voice. It's sweet and full and full of innocence. Her voice draws you like honey and lingers in your ears. I'm in love with this voice.

Review of "Rain" by Joy Sumberg
Reviewer Nikki Talavoie, GarageBand.com, March 2006

"I May Be Right, I May Be Wrong" also introduces listeners to one of the album's singular talents: Ms. Joy Sumberg on back-up vocals. After hearing this song, I looked forward to every other of her appearances on Help Me Sing My Song. In fact, there are three in total, the finest of which is on the song "Mississippie"...

I'd love to hear a solo effort from Sumberg and more of her sweet sorghum vocals.

Review of Bob Kramer's Album ~ Help Me Sing My Song
Reviewer Todd Beemis, Indie-Music.com, March 2006

Why isn't this group on the radio? She sounds a lot like Alison Krauss! Great female vocals. The band behind her is outstanding. What a great laid back song.

Review of "Rain" by Joy Sumberg
Reviewer Ron Sandefur, GarageBand.com, March 2006

...pure, strong, honest, natural and not overly dramatic. I would buy tickets to your show or watch you on Austin City Limits...A tried and true sound that never gets old.

Review of "Rain" by Joy Sumberg
Reviewer Flame Shark, GarageBand.com, March 2006

The songwriting is excellent and the female vocal is outstanding. It seems to tower over the music and it should for this kind of music. I could see this material going far.

Review of "Rain" by Joy Sumberg
Reviewer XOR021, GarageBand.com, March 2006

Finally, something worth listening to. I loved it.

Review of "Rain" by Joy Sumberg
Reviewer Macemann, GarageBand.com, March 2006

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