

Overflowing with creativity, Virginie Côte takes us far into her interpretations and the art of improvisation. Her voice, brimming with soulful nuances and ethnic influences, delves into a rich and subtle, harmonic universe imbued with jazz, blues, soul, Latin, Brazilian, and African colors. Virginie is generous, not only in her on-stage presence firmly rooted in a strong foundation, but also in her spontaneity and the freedom, impulse, and precision of her singing. She surrounds herself with talented musicians to explore a repertoire that captivates with its musical depth as well as the dynamism of her interpretation. Between standards and original compositions, Virginie embodies contemporary jazz which carries its classical heritage and remains connected to the roots of the earth. With her emotion-infused voice, Virginie lays down her words, her scat, and carries us away.

Born into an artistic family, Virginie inherited a rich musical blend, nurtured by the great voices of jazz, blues, Brazilian music, and Broadway musicals.

She started her career in Lyon, where she studied and practiced vocal jazz, music, modern jazz, and tap dance. Between conservatory, jazz school, musicology faculty, and vocal coaches, Virginie honed her vocal techniques in jazz, classical, and pop styles, and improvisation, in which she gained a solid and comprehensive mastery. She learned jazz and classical harmony, solfeggio, choral arrangement. She also joined gospel and classical choirs, as well as a big band, and worked with capoeira and hip-hop dance companies.

From duos to septets, she performed at prestigious venues such as the Auditorium, Palais des Congrès, Hot Club, Jazz Club de la Tour Rose, and the Déjazet theater in Paris (Isabelle Kauffman's jazz recital), as well as throughout France. Virginie also appeared in dance and musical performances, particularly with the Compagnie Kay, on renowned stages like the Opera, Maison de la Danse, Transbordeur, or for the Biennale de la Danse and the Sarajevo Winter Festival.

Settled in Paris since 2001, Virginie initially paved her path in the jazz music scene by participating in jam sessions, notably with her friend and drummer Sangoma Everett. She quickly integrated the Parisian music scene with jazz, soul, world music, French chanson, and variety formations, and continued her training with various vocal coaches, masterclasses, and the soul-blues-gospel school.

She worked alongside prominent artists such as Franck Monbaylet, pianist, composer, arranger, with whom she co-wrote and recorded the album "E Ala" (2011). Their compositions offer vibrant and poetic soundscapes, which address our world with love, rebellion, commitment, and compassion.

Virginie continues to embrace musical styles from diverse cultures. She met Foxy Camara, renowned Franco-Guinean guitarist and composer, with whom she recorded several albums.

She collaborates with great musicians such as Christian Martinez, Dominique Bertram, Loïc Pontieux, Nicolas Viccaro, Thierry Farrugia, Philippe Chayeb, François Constantin, Vincent Bourgeyx, Fred Kakon, William Brunard, Maurice Merizen and many others.

Virginie performs on iconic jazz stages, both in Paris: New Morning, Duc des Lombards, Baiser Salé, Sunside, Sunset, Réservoir, Petit Journal Montparnasse, Théâtre Chaillot, Théâtre Le Temple (Broadway musical "De Paris à Broadway"), Gibus, 7 Lézards, Franc Pinot, Café Universel, Lutétia..., and internationally: Dubai, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Tunisia...

She is a regular guest at renowned festivals such as Crest Jazz Vocal, Avignon Festival, St Germain des Près, Eaubonne Jazz...

Virginie records in the studio as a soloist and chorister-arranger, and regularly leads jam sessions.

As a vocal coach, she teaches technique and improvisation for singers, voice professionals, and actors (notably for the plays of Yasmina Reza "Comment vous racontez la partie", "James Brown mettait des bigoudis ») in individual sessions, groups, and master classes.

Her ability to connect both with musicians and audiences makes her a mature artist in her craft, who stands out today on the French and international jazz scene!

*« Virginie Côte's voice carries all the lights of the journey. From the glimmer of jazz goldsmiths to the opulent riches of Latin dawns, as well as the warm draped reflections of Africa. »*

Bertrand Ploquin

*« Her stage presence mirrors her music. By no means exuberant, emerging from the depths, rising like a prayer, like a mystery carrying our eager ears to the peaks of elsewhere... »*

Le Dauphiné Libéré